The Weekly Post.

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR. PITTSBURGH, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1873. IN CLUBS OF FIVE OR OVER, $1 50.

MATERNAL LOVE.

Rather than let her little darling die,
What vigils with a loving mother keep!
Days full of care and nights devoid of sleep;
With aching heart, sad brow, and weary eye,
Ready at every moment to supply
Food and caresses to the little thing
Who lies and moans—a type of human suffering.

Rather than let her little darling fly,
On wings of angels, to that happy home
Where spirits restless as the salt sea foam,
On earth, find slumber and tranquility,
How will the mother work, and watch, and sigh,
And pray to God, in memory of His Son,
To grant new health and strength to her dear little one.

Rather than let her little darling lie,
In restless anguish on a bed of pain,
How will the mother rack her anxious brain
For attitudes of rest, and watching by
His little cot, kneel, ready to supply
Cool, grateful drinks and sedatives of power,
To give new life and bloom to her wee human flower.

O men! who on your hardihood rely,
More than your gentleness; your lives are due
To a fond mother's anxious care of you;
She, strong in spirit, would not let you die,
Soothed you to slumber, read the pleading eye,
When, a poor babe in bed, you tossed in pain—
But for her kindly heart, never to rise again.

—Dublin University Magazine.

MY CHRISTMAS BALL.

[Lippincott's Magazine.]

"What a comfortable thing a holiday is to us tired-out idea-inserters! There's a compound worthy of a German philosopher. I wish Christmas came six times a year; don't you, Patience? Why, Patience—sister Patience—you cannot surely be asleep? My first evening home, too, of all evenings! Patience! wake up, I say, Patience!"

"What wouldst thou with me, Adelaide?"

"Is that a question from Shakspeare, you sepulchral female?"

"No—Kotzebue. Didst never see *The Stranger*?"

"I should like to see a stranger just now—one that would make himself agreeable. I feel restless; I want to talk, and I do believe you are half asleep again. Patience, such somnolency must surely be a symptom of approaching illness—brain disease or typhoid fever most likely. It isn't natural; it's lethargic."

"Leth—what? Say that again, please. I could not take the whole word in at once."

"Patience, don't be provoking. Talk to me a little, please; I want to be amused. And you have not told me one syllable of news. Any new scholars coming after the holidays?"

"Two—Teesie Wilson's little sister and—"

"Tessie Wilson! That child is well named. What a torment the little witch is! Confess now—don't your fingers often ache to give her a good cuffing?"

"Sometimes. Then Rosie Gray is coming back, and I have the promise of two more—Mrs. Ralston's oldest girls. The school will be full again when they come, and I think matters look very fairly altogether. And you? How are you getting on, Addie?"

"Oh, very well. The children tease sometimes, but Mrs. Jamieson is very kind, and always upholds my authority. And then the girls are really fond of me, and the whole family made me such pretty presents. I must show them to you as soon as my trunk arrives."

We were alone in the world, we two sisters—Patience Carr, the school-mistress, and I, Adelaide, the governess. Ten years before we had known the extreme of luxury—a house in a fashionable quarter of New York, horses, carriages, servants, French dresses and diamonds for Patience, broad sashes, worked muslins and velvet suits for me. That was when Antarctic Mail was selling at 130, and Richard Carr, our father, was considered one of the shrewdest and most successful of Wall street speculators. Then, one bright day, Antarctic Mail took a downward leap, and carried my father's fortune with it; his reason followed, and in the end, his life. So one morning, a woman and a child (Patience and I) set forth into the world to seek, not our fortunes, but our daily bread. There was a difference of twelve years between Patience and myself—years that were expressed by a neat row of five little graves with elegantly carved tombstones out at Greenwood, where our brothers and sisters slept a calm slumber that no depreciation in Antarctic Mail had power to disturb. Our mother had died when I was only two years old; she too had gone where Wall street ceases from troubling, and the bulls and bears are at rest. So Patience took care of me for six long years, and then I, being eighteen, went forth to win my own bread as a governess.

I cannot say that the usual adventures which novel writers describe as befalling every young woman, whether attractive or otherwise, who goes out as a governess, ever happened to me. No handsome youth, the only son of the family in which I taught English, French, the rudiments of German, music and drawing, ever fell at my feet and besought permission to remove me to a more congenial sphere. I found out no dark and deadly mysteries, no hidden maniac or undiscovered crimes; nor was I ever subjected to a series of petty slights and injuries from narrow-winded *meres de famille*. I was usually very well treated and fairly paid, so I never had a chance of posing myself either as a victim or a heroine of romance. At the time of which I write I was indeed as pleasantly situated as it is possible for a governess to be. My employers were cultivated, kind-hearted people, my eldest pupils intelligent, well-brought-up girls, and the rest of the children not more unruly or tormenting than healthy children, especially boys, are apt to be. So that particular Christmas eve of which I write found me very much inclined to enjoy my holiday, and fully prepared to enter into all the festivities of the season which might fall to my share.

"We are to have roast turkey for dinner to-morrow," remarked Patience after a brief silence.

"*Gourmande va!*"

"And what do you say to a matinee as a pleasant method of passing the day?"

"You know I love a play above all things. Where shall we go?—to Wallack's? Booth's? the Fifth Avenue?"

"Choose for yourself, Addie; you are company, you know. There is the newspaper on the table."

I sat down to pore over the advertisements with as much eagerness and excitement as though my twenty-two years had been suddenly diminished by ten at the very least. At last I looked up: "Patience!"

"Well, dear?"

"Don't you wish that something would happen to us, as often happens in plays?—that is, don't you wish that some unknown relative or rich old uncle would make his appearance and shower untold wealth upon us?"

"I am sure we are very comfortable now. And what is the use of wishing such things?"

"Not much use, only some amusement. Castles in the air are very easily erected, and cost nothing for bricks, mortar or laborers' hire."

"Yes, but when they tumble down as they invariably do, you may chance to get a rap on the head from some of the flying timbers. Best stay on terra firma, Addie."

I laughed, and again bent over my paper. But the momentous question of the Christmas matinee once settled and the newspaper thrown aside, my thoughts reverted to my airy castles, and instinctively I began to rear them again. We were both silent. Patience leaned back, half asleep, in her rocking chair, whilst I sat on a low seat at her feet and gazed dreamily into the glowing coals of the grate. I saw myself a lively, laughing child again, flying down the broad staircase of our Fifth avenue mansion in embroidered muslin and floating silk sash, en route for some childish party or other; and then I remembered a certain dinner-party which my father had once given, and how I, peeping slyly through the chink of the dining-room door, had thought privately that sister Patience in her native silk and pearls was the prettiest lady there. Poor, dear Patience! the prettiest still remained, though the silk and the pearls were things of the past. Suddenly a thought struck me, a recollection of an old story told me in those far-off days. I would wake Patience up, and she would tell me all about it. So I faced round and looked up into the fair placid face that showed so sweet and calm in the ruddy fire-glow.

"Patience, once and for all, you *shall* wake up and talk to me, or I shall go straight back to Mrs. Jamieson's to-morrow morning. You hurt my feelings by treating my arrival so soporifically."

"Do they feed you on minced dictionary at Mrs. Jamieson's?" queried my much-put-upon sister, opening her eyes in a very languid manner. You do use such very long words."

"I think *you* must have been going to several classical concerts lately. You look as though you had scarcely recovered from a severe attack of Opuses in X minor."

"I was not asleep, child; I was only thinking."

"Stop thinking through your nose, then; it is a very bad habit for a lady to indulge in."

"Well, I am wide awake enough now for anything. What is it you want me to do?"

"I want you to tell me a story. Is there not a queer one extant about an old uncle of ours and a precious stone?"

"Our grand-uncle—yes. Did you never hear about Stephen Carr, our father' uncle, and how oddly he disappeared?"

"Long ago, when I was a very little child, I suppose, for my remembrance of the affair is as vague and uncertain as possible, there was something about a voyage to Europe and a lost jewel, but I recollect nothing definite. I want you to tell me all about it. Begin at the very beginning, please. Come now, I'm all ready to listen. Once upon a time—"

"Well, said Patience, gazing at the coals as though trying to read there the commencement of her narrative, "you must remember that our father's family was far from being a very aristocratic one, at least on our grandfather's side, for there is no better blood in New York state than that of our grandmother. She was a Miss Van Lorten."

"'You remind me of that woman in 'Hard Times,' 'whose mother was a Powler. 'Go on.'"

"I will not unless you promise not to interrupt me. Where was I? Oh yes! Our grandfather had an only brother, an old bachelor, who was by trade not exactly a jeweler, but a diamond-broker—I think they call such a person—a man who buys and sells precious stones. He used to go abroad once or twice a year for the purpose of visiting pawnbrokers' establishments and second-hand dealers in search of gems that might be cheaply purchased, as well as for the usual transactions of his business. He was a grave, taciturn man, and never discussed his affairs with any one, not even with our grandfather, to whom he was much attached. His picture used to hang in the old Carr mansion—a heavy-browed, close-lipped, stern looking face, with nothing genial or communicative about it.

"Now, as regards the curious part of the story, remember I only speak from hearsay. I tell the tale as it came to me from the lips of our grandmother when I was quite a child; and the old family servants also were fond of discussing this rather mysterious family legend; but since our grandmother's death and the breaking up of the old establishment (all of which happened when I was about nine years old) I have heard scarcely anything about it, except a few words which my father once let fall on the subject. But I heard the story so often in my childhood that it made a deep impression on my memory.

"One year—about forty years ago, I should think, somewhere between 1830 and '35—my grand-uncle set out on his annual pilgrimage to Europe. He took with him all his disposable funds, varying by report from twenty to forty thousand dollars, but probably nearer the former sum than the latter. Before he sailed he signified to our grandfather his intention of making a somewhat extended tour, and also gave him to understand that he contemplated making a purchase of unusual importance and magnitude. If he had been a little more explicit much trouble might have been saved, but it was never his way to talk much over his affairs with any one.

"He sailed early in the spring, and reached the old world in safety. I have seen some of the letters he wrote during that last journey—all brief, curt epistles, telling little but the state of his health, the place from whence he was writing, and the probable date of his departure for another point. The last country to which he went was Holland. He stayed some time at Amsterdam, and then went to Rotterdam, where he remained several weeks; but, as usual, his letters contained no intelligence respecting his business transactions. At length word was received of his approaching return. He took passage direct from Rotterdam in a sailing vessel, but he was not destined to reach home alive. The cholera broke out on board of the ship before she had been many days out of sight of land, and Stephen Carr was one of its earliest victims. It was supposed that the virulence of the disorder and its speedy termination prevented him from making known anything respecting his property. He was accustomed always to travel with his precious merchandise carefully concealed in nooks and corners among his baggage; and this last voyage his purchases must have been of unusual value, and were either stolen or so carefully concealed that they were never discovered. Nor have they ever been found from that day to this."

"How was it known that he had brought anything of importance?"

"Grandfather went to Holland expressly to trace out some indication of the whereabouts of his brother's missing fortune. He found that the whole of the large amount of money which Stephen Carr had taken abroad with him had been drawn out on one day about a week before he sailed for home. He also discovered that he had had dealings with a man named Nicholas Leerjen, a dealer in bric-a-brac and jewelry, who had a shop on the Boompjes; but this Leerjen, on being interrogated, sturdily denied that any transaction of importance had ever taken place between himself and Mr. Carr, who had bought from him, he averred, nothing but an antique silver salver which he described minutely; and as such a salver had been found among the effects of the deceased, there seemed no reason to doubt the Dutchman's word. So, after spending some weeks in fruitless inquiries and investigations, our grandfather was forced to return home no wiser and no richer than when he had set out.

"Now comes the strangest part of this strange story. A short time after grandfather's return home, which was very speedily accomplished, the vessel he came in being an American clipper and the winds favorable all the way, he was awakened one night by my grandmother, who declared that she heard some one breaking into the house. My grandfather listened, and was soon convinced that her supicions were correct; so he threw on a dressing-gown, loaded his pistols, and softly unbarring his door slipped stealthily out into the passage. He heard footsteps proceeding up the stairs to an upper room which had been his brother's. He followed with noiseless tread, and on reaching the door of the apartment he saw by the faint glimmer of a dark lantern, a man on his knees before Stephen Carr's trunk (which still contained all articles that had been brought from abroad), and engaged in forcing the lock. Some sound which he made attracted the attention of the robber, who sprang up and rushed upon him; but our grandfather, who was not easily thrown off his guard, presented his pistol full at his advancing assailant, fired, and the man fell to the ground."

"Was he killed outright?"

"Unfortunately, yes; the bullet had passed through his head. I say unfortunately, as with him died the last hope of discovering the missing property, for on examination the would-be robber proved to be no other than Nicholas Leerjen, the Dutch shopkeeper."

"And his motive? What could have been his reason for committing such a crime?"

"Do you not see," said Patience, "that our grand-uncle must have purchased from him some exceedingly valuable gems, and that he, being apprised by my grandfather's inquiries that the whereabouts of this purchase was unknown, and being also probably aware of its place of concealment, had made a desperate attempt to gain possession of it?"

"I see. I wonder what really did become of it?"

"Father comes to the conclusion that it must have been stolen from his brother's trunk on board the ship, after his death. But he always kept his trunk and its contents very carefully, and enjoined on me to do the same, though it has been ransacked again and again, and every article it contains thoroughly examined."

"And where is it now?"

"Up stairs in the little third-story back room. Don't you remember it—a middle-sized sole-leather trunk, with 'S. C.' marked on it?"

"I tell you what, Patience," I said, springing up, "I mean to have a look at the contents of that trunk early to-morrow morning."

"What nonsense, Addie! Don't I tell you that every thing in it has been thoroughly examined hundreds of times?"

"Well, then, it will do no hurt to examine them the several hundred-and-oneth time. But was not that a ring at the bell? Yes, indeed? Here comes my trunk, Patience. I want to show you my Christmas gifts, and I have knit you such a pretty shawl." And in the unpacking and examination of my little stock of treasures the remainder of the evening passed swiftly away, and there was no further question of Stephen Carr or of the lost jewels. But I had not relinquished my purpose, and as soon as the breakfast things were put away the next morning I assailed Patience anew: "Where is the key of Stephen Carr's trunk? I know you mean to be closeted with Noah for an hour at least superintending the stuffing of that turkey; so, unless you wish me to die of ennui during your absence, you might as well let me amuse myself after my own fashion."

"Curiosity, thy name is—Adelaide Carr!" laughed Patience as she went to her desk to look for the key. Here it is. And put on a shawl, Addie; there is no fire in the room, and I do not want you to catch cold."

"And if I find the fortune?"

"Bring it down stairs and show it to me; that is, if it is not too heavy to carry."

So Patience disappeared laughing in the direction of the kitchen, and I hastened to put on my heavy cloth traveling sacque, and made the best of my way to the third-story back room—a little dingy apartment used as a lumber-room, and half-filled with old trunks, broken furniture, discarded pictures; in fact, all the rubbish which collects in old houses, and which, though considered too good to throw away, is usually mere useless lumber. An old picture, the portrait of some forgotten friend or distant relative of our parents or grandparents, leaned against the wall, and seemed to leer at me out of its eyes with a look of mockery and discouragement. An old high clock in the corner, jarred probably by my step on the door, started suddenly into a wheezy series of ticks, and then was silent again. The air of the shut-up room smote coldly on my senses, and chilled me despite my warm wrappings. Gathering my dress about me I picked my way across the floor, avoiding sundry jagged nails and broken trunk-corners, and soon stood in front of the trunk marked "S. C." Stooping, I fitted the key to the lock; it turned slowly and creakingly, and with an eager yet trembling hand I flung back the lid. No sudden glow of gold or jewels flashed from the interior. A quantity of masculine habiliments, carefully folded, greeted my eyes, and a strong odor of camphor assailed my nose. That was all.

I took the things out one by one, unfolding each article as I did so and scrutinizing it carefully. Old-fashioned shirts yellow as saffron; coats from which every vestige of the lining had been ripped in the search for hidden wealth; trousers with the pockets turned inside out; stockings not rolled in compact balls, but stretched out at full length,—such were the uppermost in the old trunk. Underneath lay a pair or two of boots, a small dressing-case covered with Russian leather, a small, flat work-box (containing two spools, one of black silk and one of white thread, a lump of wax scored by passing threads, a needle-book shaped like a butterfly, and a pair of scissors), and a writing-case, also covered with Russia leather. I took this last to the light, and carefully examined it in the vague hope that it might contain some fragment of writing, some entry in cipher perhaps, that might prove a clew to the mystery. Vain hope! The stained blotting-paper, the shabby pen-holder, the rusty pen-knife revealed nothing; and all written paper had been removed long ago, had there indeed ever been any. The dressing-case, the work-box were alike unfruitful of discoveries. The heels of the boots had been cut off and cut in pieces, and I found the fragment lying at the bottom of the trunk. And the trunk bottom itself had been split open and pried apart in a search for a false compartment doubtless. Truly, careful searchers had been before me; where was the marvel if I failed to find anything?

Slowly and reluctantly I refolded and replaced the scattered garments in the trunk, laid the work-box, writing-case, and dressing-case on the top of them, closed the lid, turned the key, and putting it in my pocket, ran down stairs, resolved to forget old Stephen Carr and his belongings.

The afternoon was spent, as we had planned, at the theatre, and in the evening it was agreed that Patience should read aloud whilst I sewed. I had a piece of finery that needed renovating—a black cloth coat, the shabby fringe of which I was going to replace with fresh and new-fashioned fur trimming—and I was anxious to get it done that I might look my best at church the ensuing Sunday. I got out my work, and my good sister produced a thick, promising-looking novel.

"What have you got there, Patience? But stop. Before you begin, can you lend me a piece of wax?"

"I have not a bit in the house."

"How provoking! This black silk tangles and knots so when it is not waxed. Patience, there is a nice ball of wax upstairs in old Stephen Carr's work-box. Do you think his ghost would come after me were I to go up after it?"

"For three cents I would insure you against all ghosts."

"Done! I'll send you the three cents in the shape of a postage-stamp on the very next letter I write you. Where's the candle? I have the trunk-key still in my pocket."

So up I went, and soon returned with the yellowish ball of thread-scored wax in my hand. Then we sat down, and for some time the work and the reading proceeded in a merry duet. At length, growing deeply interested in the fortunes and follies of the heroine, I let my sewing fall on my lap and sat with folded hands in a state of lazy enjoyment.

I was brought back to a sense of my duty by my scissors slipping from my lap and falling with a clatter to the floor. Patience still read on, while I, being rather conscience-stricken at my own indolence, strove noiselessly to collect my belongings. Work, scissors, thimble, spool, had all found their way to the ground during my temporary abstraction. I gathered them up and prepared to go to work again. But where was the ball of wax? How stupid! It had rolled under the grate, and now lay in close proximity to two red-hot coals, sizzling a little from time to time, and decidedly lessened in size. I dislodged it with the poker, pulled it toward me, and endeavored to cleanse it from the ashes and to mold its softened bulk into shape again. But as I pressed the half-melted wax between my fingers they encountered a hard substance—something firm and with sharp edges—that resisted the pressure. My hands trembled with eagerness and nervous excitement as I stripped the waxen shell from this hard kernel. Patience's voice seemed to die away in the distance as I plied my scissors and my fingers in their hurried work. At last it was done; the hidden thing lay bare before me on my open palm. This was what I saw.

A stone resembling in size and shape the half of a good-sized hickory nut, if the nut were divided transversely, cut into a few broad facets on top, and underneath cut into similar facets. Its shape was perfectly regular, its color a rich growing crimson, or rather deep rose-red. I gazed at it in mute admiration and bewilderment for a moment; then I started to my feet, amazing Patience, who stopped reading and dropped her book as I cried out, in a state of almost frenzied excitement, "Patience, look! I have found this. What is it? Can it be—"

Quiet, clam, and unruffled as ever, my sister rose, looked steadily at the stone as it lay on my shaking palm, then took it in her own hand, and drew it lightly across the glass shade of the little clock that stood on the mantelpiece. A sharp grating sound was heard, and when she took her hand away a long scratch was visible on the surface of the glass. She turned towards me then, and her voice had a sudden quiver and her cheek flushed with unwonted red as she answered, "It is a ruby—an enormous one. Adelaide, the missing fortune of Stephen Carr's found at last!"

Whereupon I seized my old cloth coat and flung it straightway into the fire: I mean to have a seal-skin sacque before the new year is born. Dont look so astonished, Patience. I am not mad—only beside my self with joy." But my excitement died away as Patience bent her gentle head and whispered softly, "Let us give thanks to God."

A MUD VOLCANO.

A correspondent of the London Times describes a singular phenomenon—the "bursting" of an Irish bog. The bog in question is situated about three miles east of Dunmore (Galway.) The level of the upper surface of the bog was 260 feet above the sea, and that of the water at Dunmore 190 feet. On Wednesday, October 1, a farmer living on the Corrabel rivulet, near the bog, was digging his potatoes, when he suddenly observed a brown mass slowly approaching him. He left his spade in the ground and went for the neighbors; on his return, the mass, which was the moving bog had half covered his potato field and completely hidden from sight his field of grain. This was but the commencement; since then the bog has continued to advance in a rolling mass, continuing its course, right down the valley to Dunmore, burying on its way three farm-houses, and covering at least 180 acres of pasture and arable land to a depth in some places of six feet.

The source of the disaster presents a wonderful appearance. The subsidence at the discharging point cannot be less than about thirty-five feet. The extent of the bog affected is most clearly defined by a series of black crevasses, where the upper crust of the bog has, by subsidence below, been torn asunder. The whole assumes the form of a crater half a mile in diameter. The writer with considerable difficulty picked his way to the centre, where he found the brown liquid bog boiling out like a stream of lava, and feeding the moving mass in the valley below. At the point where the bog burst the turf banks were forced over and round on either side, and assumed somewhat the appearance of moraines.

AN IMPORTANT CASE IN COURT.

In the Supreme Court in Missouri, a few days ago, an interesting case was decided on appeal. It originated in the Probate Court of St. Louis county, and grew out of exceptions made to items in the administrator's account in making the final settlement of the estate of one John Walsh. It appears from the record that John Walsh died between 4 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon, Aug. 1, 1866; that he had a wife and one son who survived him; that the son died between 9 and 10 o'clock the same evening, and that the wife died about one hour afterward. At the time of the death of John Walsh his father, aged over seventy years, resided with him, and after the death of his son and family desired to return to Canada, where he had formerly resided, but having no means, applied to the administrator for assistance. The latter, supposing him to be one of the heirs, advanced him $200, for which the Probate Court refused to allow credit. It was natural that the father should suppose himself an heir when his son and his son's wife and child were all dead; but the wife having been the survivor, although but a few minutes, became the sole heir, and through her the estate passed to her heirs, consisting of her mother, brothers, and sisters, according to the decision of the Probate Judge, which was sustained in the Supreme Court.

A DAINTY "RESPONSE."

The blessed Christmas eve draws nigh,
The casements glow with gold and red,
And radiance from the western sky
Gleams on the maiden's bending head.

Dainty, yet brown, the maiden's hand,
Kissed by the wind, the dew, the sun;
Deftly it folds the lengthening band
And blithe the busy fingers run.

And "Ah," she sings, "Thou little hand,
Thou art not fair, thou art not fine,
But one I love would humbly stand
And sue to clasp this hand of mine.

"Thou marriage-robe, my lightsome task,
Thou art not gay with gold or gem,
But one I love would gladly ask
The boon to kiss thy very HEM."

The task is done. She lifts her eyes,
And greets the sunset's golden glow;
And, lovlier than those evening skies,
O'er brain and heart sweet fancies flow.

Dreams of a manly toil-knit form,
Whose voices shall cheer, whose arm shall stay,
A comrade through the earthly storm,
A leader towards the heavenly day.

Her dreaming soul is in her eyes,
She heeds nor hears the appealing knock'
Till, with a sudden, sweet surprise
His welcome touch is on the LOCK

And, "Come, my darling, almost mine,
Put on this wedding robe ere night;
The bridesmaids wait, the tapers shine,
And earth is dressed in bridal white."

He leads her from her cottage home
Down the pure fields of virgin snow;
Above them bends heaven's pearly dome.
Touched by the sunset's fading glow.

Dark, fragrant pines o'erhang the dell;
The cottage maiden pauses there,
Sees the gray church, and hears the bell
Pour its clear music on the air.

And gazing in each other's face,
There murmured on the lips of both,
"Rememberest thou the hour, the place,
The tree that heard our mutual troth?"

Then breathed each heart a tender prayer
For blessings on the unspoken vows,
While o'er them trembled in the air
The stately HEMLOCK'S graceful boughs.

—[Charades and Responses.

MARK TWAIN ON SCOTLAND.

On the 29th of November the St. Andrew's Society of London held a festival at the Salutation Tavern, Newgate street, when upwards of one hundred gentlemen sat down to dinner under the presidency of Mr. Tom Hood. One of the guests of the evening was Mr. Clemens, better know under the nom de plume of Mark Twain. The chairman gave the toast of the evening in appropriate terms, and

Mark Twain, in the course of his reply to the toast of "The Guests," said: I feel singularly at home in this Scottish society. I have spent so much time in Scotland that everything connected with Scotland is familiar to me. Last summer I passed five weeks in that magnificent City of Edinburgh, resting. I needed rest, and I did rest. I did not know anybody. I did not take any letters of introduction at all. I simply rested and enjoyed myself. From my experience of the Scotch everything belonging to them is fam....r, the language, the peculiarities of expression, even the technical things that are national, are simple household words with me. I remember when in Edinburgh I was nearly always taken for a Scotchman. Oh, yes! (Laughter.) I had my clothes some part colored tartan, and I rather enjoyed being taken for a Scotchman. I stuck a big feather in my cap, too, and the people would follow me for miles. They thought I was a Highlander, and some of the best judges in Scotland said they had never seen a Highland costume like mine. What's more, one of those judges fined me for wearing it—out of mere envy, I suppose. (Laughter.) But any man may have a noble, good time in Scotland if they only think he's a native. (Laughter.) For breakfast you may have oatmeal poultice—I beg pardon, I mean porridge. (Laughter) Then for dinner you may have fine Scotch game—the blackcock, the spatchcock, the woodcock, the moorcock. I have simply to return my acknowledgments, and to apologize for not being able to make a speech; but give me fair play, and certainly I can make a speech that will astonish anybody, and nobody more than myself. (Laughter.) My present position is a national one, if I may be regarded as representing the United States of America. On that side of the Atlantic there are 40-000,000 of people. They may be respectable, and I will say in conclusion, that I do hope "A brother American" will soon cease to be simply a phrase meaning nothing, but will by and by become a reality, when Great Britain and the citizens of America will be brethren indeed. (Cheers.)

A variety of toasts were given during the evening, and the proceedings were enlivened with some excellent musical selections.

LOYALTY IN AUSTRIA—AN IMPERIAL CELEBRATION.

On the 1st of December the Emperor of Austria celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of his accession to the throne. The people seemed to join heartily in the festivities. The illumination of Vienna was general, spontaneous, and most brilliant, even the humblest streets being lighted up. The public buildings, the embassies, and the private mansions were gay with flags. The Ringstrasse was a sea of light. The Emperor, the Empress, and the Crown Prince drove for two hours through the densely crowded streets, and were much cheered. Far away on the Alps shone out bonfires from the mountain tops.

At sunrise a salute of one hundred and one guns was fired before the Imperial castle. High mass was celebrated in all the churches. To the deputies of the Lower House the Emperor expressed the hope that by the conciliatory efforts of all parties the bonds would be strengthened by which the various parts of the whole empire were bound together. To the members of the ministry he said:

"I thank you for your many faithful and valuable services. I hope you will long remain in office. This will certainly be the case if you proceed as hitherto with the sagacity and tact you have displayed, and are not found wanting in the necessary determination at the right moment." To the generals the Emperor said: "I present to you my son. I wish you to show to him the same fidelity as to me."

He spoke with deep emotion. Many old generals wept when the Emperor ended by recalling the glorious deeds of the deceased General Radetzky and Admiral Tegethoff.

In receiving the bishops the Emperor said he sincerely hoped that God's blessing would attend the labors of the clergy in the mission they had to accomplish, and which should tend to promote among the people the peace which takes its root in religion. He added that he was convinced the bishops would not be wanting in the co-operation which their influence enabled this them to afford towards achieving exalted object. An Imperial order has been issued creating a commemorative medal, to be bestowed upon all those who have taken part in any campaign since His Majesty's accession in 1848. The Emperor has, moreover, granted an amnesty to all persons under sentence for offences against his person. He has, at the same time, ordered a speedy report to be made to him respecting other condemned persons whose conduct warrants lenity being shown them.

THE LOWER CLASSES IN SPAIN.

The dress of the lower classes is very varied and picturesque. The women wear a short skirt of some gaudy color, especially gaudy on holidays; a red, yellow, or snowy-white handkerchief over the head, which forms their only protection (save their magnificently-thick tresses of bound-up hair) against the burning, almost tropical sun. Generally they have small, well-formed feet and hands, on the latter of which one or two massive brass or silver rings are seen; on some of these I have noticed the simple word "Recibiado" ("Received"), on others "No me olbides" ("Forget me not"), while others again wear a ring with the image of the saint on whose day they were born. These rings can be bought at the various "ferias," or annual fairs, for sums varying from two pence up to two shillings. The dress of the men consists of a colored shirt, a short jacket, and a pair of course woolen trousers. They do not wear boots, as a rule, but sandals bound with string round the ankle; these sandals are of unbleached leather. Many of the women wear sandals of esparto grass, costing about four pence; many, again, are barefoot. There are, however, two articles of dress without which no man's toilet is complete—the "manta," or rug, used at home to sleep in, and as a covering from rain, or a bed, when on a journey; and the "faja," or waist-belt, pronounced "faeca." This last is wholly indispensable; a muleteer, gardener, miner, or bricklayer would gladly do his work without his "sombrero" or thick felt porkpie hat, but without his "faja" it were useless to expect it. Let me describe this necessary article of clothing. It is a long piece of very thin cloth, in length about 8 feet, in width about 9 inches; in color, always bright scarlet, black, or crimson. One end is tucked into the trousers just at the waist, it is then wound round and round the waist tightly, forming an elastic bandage about nine or ten inches wide, the remaining end is tucked in tightly, and then the "faja" is complete. The support of this to the back, loins, and abdomen is marvelous, and whether your calling force you to walk, ride, lift, sit upright, or dig, it is equally a comfort. Once get used to it, and you cannot dispense with it. The cheapest of these costs about four pesetas (a peseta is equal to ten pence), and a silk one about $4. These are worn in many cases by the better classes also. Nor is this the only use of the "faja." It serves as the belt for the revolver and knife, which are carried by every Spaniard—"Why do you carry a knife?" I asked of a very intelligent Spaniard, and the answer was a very significant one. "I do not know whom I may meet"—and in its ample folds the little purse is kept concealed. The poorer class of Spaniards carry the whole of their worldly goods about with them; the richer keep all their wealth concealed about their house. In the towns of the interior no one makes use of a bank; if you ask the reason and remind them that they lose interest, a Spanish gentleman will say, "Yes, but that is better than to lose the principal." Their fare is the very simplest. Bread and fruit, and fruit and bread, with now and then, for the men, a "copa" (wineglass) of Val de penas (the rough red wine of the country), is the staple of their sustenance. The only thing about which the Spaniards high and low, are really particular, is their water. In a country where the women drink nothing but agua (water) from year's end to year's end and the men little else, it is quite necessary to have that little good; and good it is, in all cases. Go into the poorest hut, only tenanted by a few wood-cutters or itinerant miners, and ask for a cup of water, and the little "jarro," or porous four-mouthed water jar, will be unhooked from the peg where it hangs in the sun, and you will have a drink of the purest, coldest water, from the choicest spring—water perhaps brought from a distance of three miles by the water-carrier. Only be sure you hold the jarro up above your head with both hands, and pour the waters down your throat in a refreshing stream, for your manners are voted simply indecent if you touch the brim with your lips. As regards education, the lower classes have absolutely none. Seventy per cent can neither read nor write. There are no schools to speak of in the interior; even for the higher classes there are no governesses, and it is no uncommon thing to find a well-born lady not very well up to writing a letter. The lower orders are, of course, grossly superstitious. Fortune-tellers abound. There is, however, a vast deal of natural courtesy, natural wit, natural intelligence. Uncultured and uneducated as he is, the Spanish poor man has the manners of a thorough gentleman.—[Macmillan's Magazine.

MR. BANDMANN PINCHES AN ACTRESS.

Herr Bandmann, tragedian, was summoned before the Plymouth magistrates on Saturday, December 6, for assaulting Mrs. Margaret Mott, who plays under the name of Miss Montaigne, the first lady of the Plymouth Theatre Company. Herr Bandmann, who fulfilled a starring engagement at that theatre last week, played Narcisse, and Miss Montaigne complained that when in the third act, as the Marquise de Pompadour, she did not sit down quickly enough, the tragedian pushed her violently on to the seat, and that afterward, when she died in his arms, he pinched her badly in the side. The defence was that Herr Bandmann had not used more force that was necessary to the proper playing of his part. Medical evidence of slight bruises was given. Mr. Otway, low comedian, gave it as his opinion that too much violence was used, while Mr. Honeysett, another actor, said that Herr Bandmann's action was necessary to hide Miss Montaigne's bad acting. This case, which lasted nearly three hours, was ultimately dismissed.—[London News.

MONUMENT TO "FANNY FERN."

Robert Bonner has erected a monument to the memory of Fanny Fern at Mt. Auburn Cemetery, L. I. It is a Roman or Latin cross, with a pedestal of the same order of architecture; this latter member consists of the following parts, viz.: a granite plinth, marble base, deeply molded, a die of the same material, and a well proportioned bold projecting cap. This pedestal supports the cross, which is draped with interlacing fern-leaves, richly carved. The die contains the following inscription:

Front—"Fanny Fern."

North panel—"Born at Portland, July 9, 1811. Died at New York, Oct. 10. 1872."

South panel—"A tribute to the memory of a friend, by Robert Bonner."

VARIETIES.

LACE FICHUS are fashionable this winter for evening dress.

CAMBRIC handkerchiefs, with colored borders, have been introduced. Some have a colored monogram in the centre.

THE object of legislation is said to be the greatest good to the greatest number, and the greatest number is number one.

A CINCINNATI matron says there is not a fashionable girl in that city but would rather stay away from church than be seen wearing a pair of single button gloves.

"I'VE no mother now, I'm weeping," was sung with great pathos by a seventy-five year old orphan, who had attempted to drown his grief in copious draughts of lager, in a Toledo saloon the other night.

THE Grand Duchess of Russia, the bride-elect of the Duke of Edinburgh, is to receive an elegant present from certain British naval and marine officers, who have subscribed $5,000 for its purchase.

TELL a lady that you recently saw a lady acquaintance of hers, and the first question in reply is "What did she have on?" Tell her husband that you have seen an acquaintance of his, and you may be sure he will ask "What's he doing now?"

A LADY made a complaint to Frederick the Great, King of Prussia. "Your Majesty," said she, "my husband treats me badly." "That's none of my business," said the king. "But he speaks ill of you," said the lady. "That," said he, "is none of your business."

HARD times and dishonesty among servants have got a pretty tight grip on the clubs of New York City. The Manhattan Club has got to raise $96,000 at once, to meet its obligations, while the Long Island Club will probably have to be sold out soon, and nearly all the rest are having a hard wrestle with the financial question.

A CONVERSATION overheard in a street-car: First Young Lady—Father says that we girls must be economical, for the panic has struck him. What does your father say? Second Young lady—Oh, he don't say much; you know pa is so slow that I don't believe he'll hear the panic is in town till it has most gone away.

A LADY, who was once a housekeeper for the gentleman who is now her husband, undertook to give a grand ball at her residence in New York, last week. Six hundred cards of invitation were issued. On the eventful evening less than thirty ladies and gentlemen were present at the entertainment. This is called by fashionables the first *recherche* snub of the season.

A PORTLY gentleman crowded himself into a seat in a horse-car, next to a young man, who remarked, "You wouldn't be so anxious to have that seat if you knew that I had just gotten over the small-pox." "That's nothing," was the reply; "this is the first time that I have been out since having it myself." The young man started for the front platform.

THE latest emulator of Thomson as a writer of poetry on the seasons, has contributed the following timely stanzas to an exchange newspaper:

December's come, and now the breezes
Howl among the lifeless trees;
Now the boy with ragged trowses
Shivering homeward drives the cowses;
His boots are old and torn his clothes is,
And bless my soul how blue his nose is!

"MISS ABBY H. SMITH and sister" of Glastenbury, Conn., who object to paying their taxes because they cannot vote, have written a long letter to The Hartford Courant. The two ladies have received a visit from the tax-collector, but their decision to allow their farm to be sold rather than to pay their tax remains unchanged. In conclusion, they say "God alone controls the consequence. "The collector said, when he left, "he should call again."

Job says his patience is nearly exhausted by watching the woman of the period. He met Miss Fuss-and Feathers lately, on Broadway. She wore a crown of plumes around her head, and long trailing ones down her back; her jacket was girt round and about with feathers. She could not have carried more feathers unless previously tarred. "In fine," quoth Job, who is fond of Scriptural quotations, "she looked as though she had taken up her bed and walked."

THE New York World, describing Wednesday's fog in that city, says: "At half-past nine A. M. the fog in the streets was so dense that a person could not recognize an intimate acquaintance at a distance of more than twenty feet. People standing on the street corners wishing to take a car, heard the cars rolling by and the bells jingling, but saw nothing. It was necessary to go out into the middle of the street and stand close to the track, and then risk hailing the wrong car."

A WRITER in Hardwicke's Science Gossip tells the following tough parrot story: "A friend of mine has a very sensible parrot. Some time ago the lighted end of a cigar fell by accident just under the door of Polly's cage. The fumes soon attracted her attention, and she instantly set about removing the danger. Taking up a small cup containing cold tea (for which she has a great partiality), she poured the contents on the burning end, with the greatest coolness imaginable, and extinguished it."

"MEMORIAM" cards are not yet used in this country, but in England it is customary to issue them in memory of a friend or relative about a week or ten days after the decease. Those who receive them are at liberty to make a visit of condolence to the bereaved family. They are of white Bristol board with a black border, and bear the words, *In Memoriam*, with the name of the deceased, his age, the place and time of his death, the place of interment, and the name of the survivors who issue the cards.

A CORRESPONDENT of the London Lancet, the most important medical journal published in England, relates the following curious fact: A man in his neighborhood had three daughters. Wishing for a son, he made a solemn vow

Weekly Post.

Pittsburgh, Saturday, Dec. 27, 1873.

MR. STORM of Pennsylvania has made a speech in Congress defending the salary grab. He will soon find himself a played out Storm.

BEN. BUTLER has introduced a supplementry Civil Rights bill in the House. If it is to confer the right to steal upon Radical officials, it is a work of superrerogation.

THE saintly Howard protests that he has a clean pair of hands, and says that he will not plead the statute of limitations. It now only remains for a Committee of Congress to whitewash him.

THE Constitution of 1838 was adopted by a majority of about 1,200 the present one by not less 175,000. The Supreme Court was opposed to both. Judges don't want Constitutions, they are the law and the prophets.

THE postal telegraph job has been presented in Congress. Mr. Dawes very appropriately offered the bill. Jobbery being the major creed of the Radical party, there is no reason why Congress will not pass the postal telegraph bill.

THE ring organs made one mistake in fighting the new Constitution. They neglected to proclaim that the document was made by "copperheads" and in the interest of the South. Had this been done the loyal thieves might have fared better.

WHEN Mr. Hale called Mr. Wilson a dirty dog, Speaker Blaine did not interfere, but when Mr. Wilson returned the compliment, then Mr. Blaine administered a rebuke. It seemed to make a difference with him as to which canine did the barking and biting.

If Williams were an over-sensitive man he would withdraw. His position is unpleasant.—Dispatch.

Which Williams is it? The Judge or the one that wants to be Chief Justice? They are so similarly situated, in some respects, that we ask for information.

ALL should heartily agree to enforce the new Constitution in its strictest construction and its fullest application—Phila. Bulletin, Ring.

Do you mean to include the tax on sheep and real estate and prevent the hard working mechanic from taking his wife and little ones on a railroad excursion to get a smell of country air?

As the new Constitution has been adopted by such a sweeping majority we suggest the propriety of the Commercial and Telegraph withdrawing the glaring falsehoods circulated and copied by them prior to the election. Decency and self respect seem to demand this much of them, with a promise that they will never do so again.

THE principal reforms of the new Constitution, such as the abolishing of our aldermanic system and our fee system, have long been urged by the people of Philadelphia, and we are glad that they form a part of the constitutional experiment, as we are always glad of the success of any wise and good reform.—Philadelphia Bulletin, Ring.

That one hundred and fifty thousand majority proved a convincing argument.

THE Virginius was formally surrendered to the United States Government on the 17th. The United States steamer Dispatch received the surrender and almost immediately afterward the two vessels steamed to the Tortugas. This finally settles the difficulty which a month ago threatened to plunge the American and Spanish governments into a war.

IF Senator Scott had paid attention to the warning he received a few weeks ago, to the effect that in case he tied to Swoope he was a doomed man, he would not have put his foot in it so badly as he did when he made his speech in opposition to the new Constitution. Contamination with Swoope has rather interfered with Scott's future prospects.

WE do not believe there is an honest man in Philadelphia to-day who believes the majority of twenty five thousand recorded for R. W. Mackey in that city for State Treasurer was anything else than a manufactured one. He was beaten as fairly in that city as he was in the balance of the State and no one knows it better than he. Will he resign and let an honest vote be taken?

THE Automatic Telegraph, according to all accounts, is performing wonders. It is said to transmit dispatches between New York and Washington at the rate of one thousand words per minute, all of which is clearly printed, and ready for the printer. The managers assert that they will be able to transmit dispatches at the rate of from twelve hundred to eighteen hundred words per minute over a single wire, printing all their messages as received.

NOTWITHSTANDING the false assertions that a fair election could not be held in this city, a fair and honest election was held under the law.—Philadelphia Bulletin, Ring.

And simply because the thieves, rounders, repeaters and alterers of election returns, discovered than the game wasn't worth the candle—that the majorities outside of Philadelphia were so large, that all the cheating they could do, could not overcome them; and besides they prefer freedom to the Penitentiary. No wonder we had the semblance of a fair election.

PROMOTING THE GRABBERS.

During the campaign of last fall the Republican leaders assumed a great deal of virtue in denouncing the back pay and salary grab. This they did, well knowing that it was their only hope of success. The hollowness of their pretensions did not deceive a great number of people, and more recent developments have clearly demonstrated the utter hypocrisy of these pretensions.

The voice of the people wherever an election was held, was unmistakably in denunciation of the salary grab and back-pay steal, and when Mr. James G. Blaine was re-elected to the Speakership, he was placed in a position where he could have given still greater force to the expressions of the people, had he chosen to do so.

In the selection of the House Committees, Mr. Blaine and his party, had they been in earnest in their denunciation of the grab, could have carried the rebuke of the people into effect, by remanding the leaders and promoters of the grab to back seats. But did he do it? The record of what he did do is so expressive that we cannot refrain from giving it. The Chairmen of the following thirty-one leading Committees of the House, all voted for and pocketed the back-pay, and were all given high posts of honor in the present House by Mr. Blaine:

Henry L. Dawes of Massachusetts, Chairman Ways and Means.
B. F. Butler, Massachusetts, Judiciary.
J. H. Packer, Pennsylvania, Post Offices and Roads.
H. Maynard, Tennessee, Banking and Currency.
G. C. McKee, Mississippi, Territories.
G. W. Scofield, Pennsylvania, Naval Affairs.
J. T. Averill, Minnesota, Indian Affairs.
L. P. Poland, Vermont, Revision of Laws.
C. Hays, Alabama, Agriculture.
W. D. Kelley, Pennsylvania, Centennial and Census.
R. R. Butler, Tennessee, Militia.
D. P. Lowe, Kansas, Mines and Mining.
O. D. Conger, Michigan, Patents.
Saml. Hooper, Massachusetts, Coinage, &c.
S. M. Kellogg, Connecticut, Reform of Civil Service.
J. Bullinton, Massachusetts, Accounts.
L. Myers, Pennsylvania, Private Land Claims.
W. C. Donnan, Iowa, Printing.
H. E. Havens, Missouri, Public Expenditures.
J. H. Platt, Virginia, Public Buildings and Grounds.
L. D. Shoemaker, Pennsylvania, Revolutionary Pensions and 1812.
C. L. Cobb, North Carolina, Freedmen's Affairs.
J. Packard, Indiana, Expenditures State Department.
J. H. Sypher, Louisiana, Expenditures Treasury Department.
W. Williams, Indiana, Expenditures War Department.
E. McJunkin, Pennsylvania, Expenditures Navy Department.
H. W. Barry, Mississippi, Expenditures Post Office Department.
J. Orr, Iowa, Expenditures Interior Department.
R. H. Duell, New York, Expenditures Public Buildings.
C. B. Darrall, Louisiana, Enrolled Bills.
F. Morey, Louisiana, Levees of Mississippi.

These thirty-one men have all drawn the back and front pay which they voted to themselves, and were placed in the leading positions of honor in the House, after their acts had been repudiated by the people, and after the Republican party had professed to be uncontrollably indignant at the salary steal. The people, by their votes, declared that these men were not fit even to sit in Congress, and yet Mr. Blaine with this verdict of the people before him, goes deliberately to work and gives them leading positions.

It is also a matter of record that every Republican in Congress who denounced and exposed the inner workings of this infamous steal, have been removed from every position of honor and responsibility. Take, for instance the case of Mr. C. W. Willard of Vermont, who during the last Congress was Chairman of the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions. Mr. Willard exposed the infamy of the salary grab, and Mr. Blaine seized the first opportunity to degrade him to the ranks.

Political conventions of all parties, mass meetings and State Legislatures have condemned the steal and the thieves who perpetrated it, over and over again, but Mr. Blaine, in the face of all this, confers upon them the highest honors within his gift.

In the Senate we find the same state of case. The Chairman of the nineteen leading committees are the leaders of the salary grab as will be seen by the following list:

S. Cameron, Pennsylvania, Chairman Foreign Relations.
L. M. Morrill, Maine, Appropriations.
T. J. Robertson, South Carolina, Manufactures.
J. A. Logan, Illinois, Military Affairs.
A. H. Cragin, New Hampshire, Naval Affairs.
A. Ramsey, Minnesota, Post Offices and Roads.
Wm. Sprague, Rhode Island, Public Lands.
W. G. Brownlow, Tennessee, Revolutionary Claims.
J. F. Lewis, Virginia, District of Columbia.
O. S. Ferry, Connecticut, Patents.
J. S. Morrill, Vermont, Public Buildings and grounds.
A. J. Boreman, West Virginia, Territories.
W. T. Stewart, Nevada Railroads.
J. W. Flanagan, Texas Education and Labor.
M. H. Carpenter, Wisconsin, to Audit and Control expenses of Senate.
T. O. Howe, Wisconsin, Library.
A. Ames, Mississippi, Enrolled Bills.
J. L. Alcorn, Mississippi, Levees of Mississippi.
W. Windom, Minnesota, Transportation to Seaboard.

The Radical leaders in Congress may make as many cheap speeches as they please, but they cannot obliterate the fact that the salary grabbers have been promoted to all the chief places in the House and Senate, while its opponents have been forced into obscure positions. These men after enriching themselves by plundering the public Treasury, now talk glibly about reform. That the Forty-third Congress has been organized in the interest of the Credit Mobilier and salary grab rings, admits of no sort of doubt. Look at the record and decide which party—the Democratic or Radical—is in favor of Reform. The record speaks for itself and needs no further comment.

AN EXPLANATION.

The Commercial of Saturday contains a column article in explanation of the "motives of those who opposed the new Constitution." We have read it very carefully, and take this opportunity to say that the explanation is not satisfactory—it don't explain what it professes to. In fact, it don't explain anything.

Mr. Errett starts out with an elaborate statement that the Ring opposition to the new Constitution was not to the instrument itself, but because it was not cut up into fragments and submitted to a separate vote. He claims that the Ring opposition to the Legislative Article, was not because it prevented corruption and special legislation, but because it was not submitted separate and apart from the rest of the Constitution. He even goes so far as to say that he would have voted for its ratification if it had been separately submitted.

Such an explanation as this won't do. The leading opposition to the Constitution, as repeatedly asserted by the Commercial, was to the Legislative and Judiciary articles, and now the claim is made that it was not opposition to their provisions, but to the fact that they were not submitted separately. If the Legislative Article was all right, and worthy of unanimous adoption, separated from the instrument, what made it wrong, when embodied in the Constitution as a whole? Perhaps our neighbor can answer.

"For ourselves, we have always been warmly opposed to special legislation, and earnestly desired to have a stop put to its corrupting influences," says the Commercial. This will be news to the people of Pennsylvania. Mr. Errett has been at the head of his party for some years in this State. He has been in a position to not only expose but annihilate the Ring which has so foully corrupted the legislation and the politics of the State. But we are not aware that he has particularly distinguished himself as a reformer. The resolutions offered by himself in Republican Conventions prove nothing. Neither Mr. Errett nor the leaders of his party have ever taken any steps to carry out the reforms they preached, and when the Constitutional Convention put it in the power of the people to put a stop to legislative and political corruption, by prohibiting it in the Constitution, Mr. Errett and the Ring were the first to come out in opposition.

The fourteen names given by the Commercial, beginning with Senator Scott and ending with Hon. Thomas Marshall, as being opposed to the ratification of the new Constitution, prove nothing. The names of a thousand men equally good, and many of them equally renowned, were signed to an appeal calling upon the people to emancipate themselves from corruption by adopting the new Constitution. As a matter of law, the testimony of fourteen men cannot be taken into consideration at all, as against the testimony of hundreds of men equally respectable, and who are not impeached.

The Commercial, in trying to give the precise reasons that induced the Ring to oppose the ratification of the Constitution, enunciates the following:

First—The refusal of the Convention to submit the Legislative and Judiciary articles to a separate vote. This many people felt to be their right, and they naturally resisted the attempt to deprive them of it.

Second—The clause requiring the ballot to be numbered.

Third—The grossly unfair and vicious basis of representation adopted in it and by which the State is outrageously gerrymandered for the benefit of the Democratic party.

Fourth—The incorporation in it of the anti-Republican schemes of minority representation and cumulative voting.

Since the adoption of the new Constitution there seems to have been a falling off in the objections to it. No longer ago than the 6th of December the Commercial prepared an indictment against it containing twenty-eight counts, worded with solemn precision and formality, the twenty-eighth summing up all the others, and pronouncing the whole Constitution an infamous fabric founded upon a lie.

How is the Commercial able to abridge the indictment into four counts, neither of which charge a felony, as was the case with it on Saturday last? It seems to try to admit that the Legislative Article is right, but should have been submitted separately. It is possible that in the eyes of some, the Convention made a mistake in not doing so, but that does not impair the virtue of the Article in the least. The numbering of the ballots makes it impossible for the present—or rather late Ring—or any other Ring to stuff the ballot-box or cheat at an election, something which certainly works injury to no one but the Ring. The basis of representation *prevents* gerrymandering for the purpose of packing the Legislature in favor of any particular interest or party. We do not recognize this as a good objection. To assert that the minority have some rights that the majority ought to respect, is certainly not a great political crime or mistake.

The Commercial intimates that it will not say anything more against the new Constitution if it is let alone. Such forbearance is without parallel but we do not see how a high-toned reform journal can so easily refrain from its stern opposition to the tax on sheep. It looks almost like cowardice to do so. All the sheep in the State will cry *baa* at Mr. Errett, if he shows the white feather in the defence of the great principle of untaxed sheep.

NOT two thousand votes difference between the October election and that for the new Constitution in this county.

BLACK ON SEWARD.

The Galaxy for January contains a notable article from the pen of Judge Jeremiah S. Black, copious extracts from which we publish elsewhere in our columns. It is a review of the political character and statesmanship of the late Wm. H. Seward, President Lincoln's Secretary of State, and was called out by the "Memorial Address" delivered in eulogy of the public life and services of Mr. Seward by Charles Frances Adams.

Judge Black's style is spiritedly blunt throughout, and sometimes becomes rugged and almost rude in its fierce invective. His estimate of Mr. Seward's character contains no ambiguity, and may be summed up tersely in a very few words, namely, that the sage of Auburn was a pettifogger in law—in politics a charlatan. These are not Judge Black's precise words, but they express his meaning very clearly.

When the future historian, who is not biased by partizanship toward either of the great contending parties, writes the history of the second decade of the nineteenth century, so far as it relates to the American Republic, he will find some knotty material in the eulogy of Mr. Adams, the Galaxy articles of Secretary Wells, and this caustic letter of Judge Black. On the one hand Mr. Adams in words of the most astounding panegyric, sets up Mr. Seward as the sole statesman who moulded and controlled the destinies of the Republic from 1861 to 1865—a period of complete transformation—while on the other hand Welles and Black paint his character as the embodiment of low cunning, intrigue, treachery and charlatanism.

It may be possible that these three men have both over estimated and underestimated the late Premier; Adams in ascribing to him an overshadowing power in controlling the affairs of Mr. Lincoln's Administration; Mr. Welles in belittling that power; and Mr. Black in remorselessly denouncing him as a traitor to Republican institutions and a pigmy edition of Robespierre. If Mr. Adams' estimate is accepted, he becomes the Apollo of American statesmanship, while if Messrs. Welles and Black are taken as authority, he becomes a disproportionate giant of littleness.

But Judge Black's letter is a two-edged sword, and is handled as only Judge Black knows how to handle that dangerous weapon of warfare. It is not so much remarkable for the scientific and remorseless way in which it shreds away the overestimated proportions of William Henry Seward, who rose to the *locale* of statesmanship through a concatenation of circumstances that never respects brains or ability, but for another point.

Judge Black is not the man who thinks he can win renown by sheathing his trenchant blade in a corpse, or even a living prostrate foe. His letter is not so much a review of Mr. Seward, as it is a skillful flaying of Mr. Charles Francis Adams, and if we do not greatly mistake the Judge, he meant to teach Mr. Adams a lesson, and used Mr. Seward's political career and doctrines as a text book. It was the ragged and rude edge of his sword with which he battered the armor of Seward, attracting thither the attention of the superficial observer, while with the keen razor-like edge he delicately sliced Mr. Adams to the bone, and makes of him an absurd skeleton instead of a rotund Apollo-like statesman and New England demi-god.

Judge Black's review is like the ocean in a storm—the surface is rough and boisterous, while below it is calm and serene. He strikes Mr. Seward sledge hammer blows, and knocks him about as the actors do the stage skulls, while under this extraneous uproar, that serves as a sort of a vocal skirmish line to conceal the real point of attack, there runs a vein of terrible satire that scorches the eulogist with its intense concentration.

The exquisite irony of the letter is not realized at the first glance. It needs to be read a second or third time to grasp it fully. All the way through the writer substitutes the eulogist for the eulogized—Mr. Seward is painted as he was, and Mr. Adams made the embodiment of all this charlatanry, intrigue and treachery that he eulogizes. Mr. Adams' comparisons are mercilessly ridiculed, and shown not to be the deductions of a living statesman commemorating the greatness and character of a dead one, but the feeble claptrap of an empiric dealing in cheap comparisons and violating common sense and history alike in their enunciation.

Judge Black takes the comparison that Mr. Adams institutes between Seward and Pericles, and demonstrates that the panegyric is a panegyric in the corrupted sense of the word, and unworthy a freshman in a second-rate college. In this ingenious way does the caustic Pennsylvanian undertake to show that the dignified New Englander, instead of being a statesman by blue blood and inheritance, is a very mediocre individual, who would invest any skeleton with a mantle of florid rhetoric for a mere school boys love of public applause. "I have heard Mr. Adams described as one who was *Catonior Catone*—more severely virtuous than the sternest of Roman censors," says the Judge, in pointing out the absurdity of the comparison, and showing the cheapness of eulogy that is erected upon a fictitious foundation.

Judge Black quietly says to Mr. Adams; "You attribute to Mr. Seward the origination of the doctrine of the "irrepressible conflict," and the "higher law," and from these and similar qualities you deduce the proof of his unapproachable statesmanship; his far-seeing acumen; his unparallelled magnanimity; his spotless purity; and hold him up as the model for our young men. You endorse and adopt all these things as the true standard of statesmanship." And then he assails these boasted qualities—throws on them the light of history—reveals the secret workings of the political machine at Washington—unveils the chicanery and intrigue of Mr. Seward when the gulf of civil war was yawning to swallow a million of the best citizens of the country, and demonstrates that instead of being the traits and qualifications of a great statesman, they are but the pernicious germs of all the crimes and enormities which precipitated the civil war and blackened the baldric of the national escutcheon from 1861 to 1869, and which even yet keeps the nation in a political eclipse.

Against Mr. Seward, the father of these pernicious creeds, Judge Black hurls the great projectiles of his invective, while at the same time he riddles the eulogist and teacher of them, Mr. Adams with the keen and subtle shafts of his burning and piercing irony, so that the latter cannot stand up to defend the late Premier, but will find his hands full in dressing and soothing his own galling wounds.

Mr. Adams instances the defense of two notorious negro murderers at Auburn by Mr. Seward, as an act of moral heroism but seldom met with. Judge Black characterizes it as being on a par with the moral heroism of the average Tombs lawyer—an attempt to defeat justice by setting up a false pretense of insanity.

Having pointed out the heresies and the crimes of the "irrepressible conflict" and "higher law" doctrines, as promulgated and carried out by Mr. Seward in the administration of the affairs of State, Judge Black calls Mr. Adams' attention to the fact that in his search for a model statesman, he passed by the founders of the Constitution and the architects of the Republic, and fixes upon one who taught and enforced the doctrine that loyalty demanded the overthrow of both, and that perjury in taking the oath of office instead of being a crime, was a virtue to be emulated.

The arbitrary power exercised by Mr. Seward during the war—the abrogation of all constitutional safeguards; the infamous and inexcusable murders that were committed in the name of liberty, loyalty and patriotism; all of which are eulogized as traits of pure and exalted statesmanship by Mr. Adams, are taken up and stripped to the bone with a hand that betrays neither trepidation nor mistaken mercy, and Mr. Adams stands convicted of being the only defender of these enormities who can lay any claim to respectable statesmanship; and then to give him the *coup de grace*, Judge Black reminds Mr. Adams that he is the leader of the Liberal Republican party of the country, which broke away from its associates for the purpose of protesting against and putting an end to the very enormities and political heresies which he so eloquently eulogises; thus fixing upon him all the characteristics of Mr. Seward for intrigue and chicanery and political double-dealing, affiliating with any party or faction that promises promotion—professing one thing and practicing another—in short, seeking for the Presidency along the most slimy channel.

But we have not the space to follow up a review of all the novel and interesting points raised in Judge Black's letter. We shall only advert to a single additional point. His reference to the murder of Mrs. Surratt seems to indicate to us that he can throw a flood of light upon that matter, which will startle the country. Holt and Johnson are alike contaminated with the foul deed, and are playing a game of shuttle-cock, each trying to shove the blame upon the other. Judge Black is a disinterested party, and we believe that he is in possession of facts sufficient to set the controversy forever at rest. The time has now come when men can reason. Judge Black should no longer keep silent. Let him speak.

THE Telegraph thinks "that our municipal affairs, throughout all departments, are in such a condition as to demand immediate and thorough investigation." Now, will it oblige us by giving its views concerning the affairs of our State Treasurer, who has been called upon over and over again to state where the money of the people is deposited, and what security he holds for its safety, and on which he is remarkably silent? Most persons would suppose, if everything is right, Mr. Mackey would not wait to be called upon a second time to inform the people where their money has been placed. What has the Telegraph to say about it, or is it afraid to speak?

WILLIAMS, the Attorney-General, has been making a "Christmas present," as he calls it, to certain parties in the Albany penitentiary. He has recommended the President to give them their liberty. They are South Carolinians, and were convicted by partisan juries under the Ku-Klux laws of Congress. Mr. Williams may think the matter facetious, but most people differ from him.

The late Speaker of the Senate Mr. Geo. H. Anderson, Russell Errett chief clerk, and the coming speaker of the House Mr. McCormick, were all opposed to the new Constitution. They all hail from this county and belong to the ring. After doing their level best they could not muster two thousand votes in the whole county. It is not likely the ring will frighten people hereafter. Like a bursted bank they save no assets.

THE SUPREME JUDGES.

For the first time in the history of Pennsylvania the Judges of the Supreme Court recognized political party and actively participated in a partizan meeting. This they did in the most emphatic way by writing favoring letters to the Anti-Constitution meeting in Philadelphia. Two circumstances make this a flagrant offence. First, because they expressed adverse opinions on a legal instrument which they may be called on to construe, thus virtually pre-judging a legal case. Second, because they had already decided in the Philadelphia case adversely to the ordinance for submitting the Constitution to vote. Every precedent in the history of the Judiciary was thus violated. They not only arranged themselves on the side of corruption by endeavoring to prevent a fair vote in Philadelphia, but in so do doing declared that the people of Pennsylvania, were the subjects, serfs, and slaves of their Legislative servants.

To crown this iniquity they have had the audacity to descend to the arena of political contest and to a combat waged against corruption.

Terms of detestation are wanting to express the abhorrence of every honest man for such conduct. It is a depth of baseness unparalled.

THE Dispatch dissents from the opinion of the New York World in that the recent election was a warning to Radical political rings and says it was a rebuke to rings of all descriptions. While the statement of the Dispatch is true, that of the World is equally so, as the only rings with which Pennsylvania has been cursed are Radical rings.

THE latest phase in the Williams matter is, that the President will withdraw his nomination as Chief Justice, whereupon Mr. Williams will resign the Attorney-Generalship. If this proves true, the nomination after all was a good one. But where can Grant get a search warrant comprehensive enough to find another candidate? That is what is troubling us.

WE are glad to learn that the London Times endorses Secretary Richardson's proposal to increase the taxes. There is nothing so comforting to the American tax payer, as to know that the London Times endorses the Administration, and is in favor of an increase of taxation.

A DISPATCH was recently sent all over the country from Columbia, S. C., announcing that Senator Patterson had been tried and honorably acquitted of all charges of corruption in securing his election to the United States Senate. The Charleston News and Courier says the dispatch was a misrepresentation of the facts in the case concocted and forwarded in the interest of Mr. Patterson, and adds: "The fact that the election of Patterson was procured solely by the use and promise of money is perfectly notorious in South Carolina, and the United States Senate can, if it likes, easily satisfy itself that the partial defeat of the feeble efforts which have thus far been made to bring him to justice was accomplished by the very same means."

AT a recent meeting of the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of this State, a committee was appointed to investigate the expediency of building a new hall in Philadelphia. The Ledger says: "The Odd Fellows are a numerous and influential Order, numbering among them many of our best and most substantial citizens. Their revenues are large and the moneys paid out in benefits amounts to hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. They do a vast amount of good, and the Philadelphia Lodges take an honest pride in everything conducing to the welfare of the city. We understand that the intention is to erect a stately building, which will be an honor alike to the Order and the city, and in this commendable object they will receive general encouragement."

THE Boston Post's Washington correspondent thus sums up the situation of the Chief Justiceship: "There has been all the time a majority of seven or eight in the Senate ready to oppose his confirmation whenever the issue was forced, and this has kept the administration Senators from urging immediate action. Subsequently, it was determined to let the case rest one week, to give the President time to reconsider and withdraw his nomination. In case this is not done by next Monday, the Senate, unless something extraordinary comes up in Williams' favor, will reject the nomination. This is one of the reasons why the Senate was not inclined to adjourn over the holidays this week."

REFERRING to the charges preferred against Grant's pet for Chief Justice, Judge Williams, the Tribune says:

Some of these accusations have been investigated by the Judiciary Committee of the Senate, and the result, as usual in such cases, is an almost complete exoneration. The fact that such charges have been made will greatly strengthen his chances for confirmation. The United States Senate exists principally for the purpose of "vindicating" people, and the only practicable vindication is to give them office. It is not pleasant to think that the chair of Marshall, Jay and Chase is to be filled by a man who, in addition to his admitted intellectual unfitness, is obliged to appear before a Committee of the Senate, as Judge Williams did yesterday, upon charges affecting his personal integrity. The Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court ought to be a different sort of man.

THE Missouri Legislature, with a majority of Democrats and Independents, shows a praise-worthy example to Congress. The session of 1873 cost only about $51,000 against an expenditure of nearly double that amount for Republican Legislature in previous years.

AT the election of President of the Senate, Senator Hamlin, of Maine, is said to have voted for Judge Thurman, the Democratic candidate. The Portland Press would like to know if, for this independent act, Carpenter's friends will read Mr. Hamlin out of the Republican party?

SPEAKING of the minor influences which were brought to bear to defeat the new Constitution the World says:

The anti-constitution ring found an unlooked-for ally in Pennsylvania's high court of Justice, and the people outside and inside the State saw with amazement the summary process of a court of chancery issued, in a case palpably fictitious, to frustrate the action of a political body claiming to represent and actually representing the sovereignty of the people. To this end the judges were summoned specially to Philadelphia, pretended to listen to an argument, and then read an affirmative judgment manifestly prepared before a word of the argument had been uttered. Of that judgment we spoke as it deserved at the time, and then it was we imagined the contingency which has come to pass, of a stern rebuke by an overwhelming popular vote of this judical impertinence. It is far more decisive than that which in 1838 was administered to the obstructive judges of these days and the getters up of fictitious cases then. Be it remembered these judges did more. They volunteered as partisans after they had done their work as chancellors. Three of them wrote letters more or less strong against the constitution. One of them wrote pettishly on both sides; and the fifth, the solitary Democrat, bowed his head and was silent. The five enjoining judges—whom the Convention in its schedule compassionately retained in office—now stand openly rebuked by the people of Pennsylvania.

THE following are the appropriations for the White House, the winter residence of the American Czar for the current year:

For greenhouse of Executive Mansion	$10,000
For fuel of Executive Mansion	5,000
For repairs of Executive Mansion	15,000
For refurnishing Executive Mansion	10,000
For improvement of grounds south of Executive Mansion	10,000
For private secretary and clerk	10,000
For contingent expenses	6,000
For two policemen	2,640
For two doorkeepers	2,400
For steward	2,000
For messenger	1,200
For usher	1,200
For night-watchman	900
For furnace-keeper	720
Total for one year	$77,660

MR. MCENERY, the legally elected Governor of Lousiana, has issued an address to his legislature, saying:

"Unless Congress determines the case in our favor prior to the first Monday of January, it would be useless for you to assemble, because such is the existing state of affairs in Lousiana, no practical benefits could flow from any legislation you might enact. It seems, then, to be the part of wisdom and patriotism that you should hold yourselves in readiness to respond to my proclamation for assembling, in the event that our government is not recognized by Congress until after the first Monday of January next."

ATTORNEY-GENERAL BARLOW, of New York, has informed Ex-Mayor Hall that his re-trial will be moved in Oyer and Terminer on December 22, and the latter has replied: "I hereby accept your notice, and will be as ready to meet you then as I have heretofore been."

THE Constitution, as a whole, is admirable; and Pennsylvania is to be congratulated that, under the lead of upright and earnest men of both political parties, it has been able to throw off its mercenary rulers and take the lead in really good reforms. —N. Y. Post.

THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

WHY MR. DARLINGTON DID NOT VOTE FOR IT.

To the Editor of The Press:

SIR: Yesterday I presented myself at the election precinct at the corner of Seventeenth and Cherry streets, Tenth ward, and offered my ticket in favor of the new constitution, and was informed I had voted. Now, as business had detained me all day at West Chester, I could not see how this could be, but I was informed I had no redress. Permit me to say to the scoundrel who was so kind as to relieve me of the duties of citizenship that hereafter I prefer to do my own voting. It is needless to add he voted me against the new constitution. The old constitution was good enough for him.

SMEDLEY DARLINGTON
No. 147 North Eighteenth street.
PHILADELPHIA, December 17, 1873.

INDIAN TERRITORY.

VINITA, December 20.—Considerable excitement exists in Indian territory over the recommendation of the President in his message to Congress to organize Indian territory, for the purpose of locating the wild Indians among these people.

At the recent meeting of Okmulgee Convention, they declined to take any action in regard to modifying the Constitution until Congress changed its policy in regard to the Indians of the plains. They say for sixty years they have been trying to civilize themselves and their children, and now to place Modocs, Kickapoos, Arapahoes, Kiowas, and Comanches alongside of them as neighbors, would demoralize their children and destroy the labor of years. Large numbers of them told Superintendent Hoage that if the Government would limit the boundary to the ninety-eighth meridian, and adopt them as citizens of the United States, and confine wild Indians to the country west of them, there would be no opposition among the people to a territorial government and allotment of land.

A delegation of prominent colored people will visit Washington in January, to urge Congress to give them their property right in the territory and citizenship in the United States. All the people seem anxious that Congress should this session give them courts and a form of government that will protect them in all their rights. They are now satisfied that citizenship and restriction of limits of territory as to exclude the settlement of wild Indians in their midst will alone save them from degradation and advance the civilization of the people.

LOUISVILLE.

GAMBLERS COMPELLED TO LEAVE.

LOUISVILLE, December 20.—A large number of gamblers who were forced to discontinue faro in this city by police regulations and took their tools to Jeffersonvill, Ind., where they have had full swing for months, within two days have been driven from the town by a pressure brought to bear on them by a Jeffersonville reporter for the Courier-Journal. Three large well-patronized banks have been broken up without the aid of the police, by popular indignation resulting from the exposing of the gambling localities. It is supposed that the gamblers will now generally leave the cities about the falls.

A NEW STYLE OF SWINDLING.

During the past two weeks the city has been visited by a number of professional swindlers who have in a small way had various successes. The last swindle was by two parties styling themselves Raymond & Co., who went among merchants for advertisements to be placed on a time card to hang in stations along the entire line of the Lousville and Nashville Railroad, and after presenting to the patrons a copy they left after the usual fashion with the money collected. They exhibited a forged certificate of the Superintendent of the railroad and other documents. Raymond & Co. succeeded in getting several advertisements. Detectives have the case in hand.

IRREPARABLE.

BY RICHARD HENRY STODDARD.

The sorrow of all sorrows
Was never sung or said,
Though many a poet borrows
The mourning of the dead,
And darkly buries pleasures
In some melodious measure,

The loss of youth is sadness
To all who think, or feel,—
A wound no after gladness
Can ever wholly heal:
And yet, so many share it
We learn at last to bear it.

The faltering and the failing
Of friends is sadder still:
For friends grown foes, assailing
Know when and where to kill,
But souls themselves sustaining,
Have still a friend remaining!

The death of those who love us,
And those we love, is sore;
But think they are above us,
Or think they are no more,—
We bear the blows that sever
We cannot weep forever!

The sorrow of all sorrows
Is deeper than all these,
And all that anguish borrows
Upon its bended knees;
No tears nor prayers relieve it,
No loving vows deceive it,

It is one day to waken
And find that love is flown,
And cannot be o'ertaken,
And we are left alone:
No woe that can be spoken
No heart that can be broken.

No wish for love's returning
Or something in its steady
No missing it, and yearning
As for the dearer dead:
No yesterday, no morrow——
But everlasting sorrow!

—Scribner's for January.

THE VILLE DU HAVRE—MORE OF THE DISASTER.

The London papers contain lengthened accounts of the Ville du Havre disaster. Mr. Waite, of New York, related his experience in these terms: The awful rapidity with which the ship went down after she was struck is scarcely credible. We were sleeping tranquilly in our berths, when a terrible crash and the shivering of the vessel awoke us in a moment. The passengers—men, women, and children—rushed on deck, some of them half dressed, others in their night dresses. At once we saw the extent of the accident which had occurred. There were the bows of a large vessel projecting over the deck, and there, too, was a frightful hole in the side of our steamer, through which the water was rushing furiously in. The crew, under the orders of the Captain, were manning the two long boats and helping passengers into them as fast as possible under the excitement of those terrible moments. While they did so, however, the mainmast fell with a crash, bringing down the mizzenmast also with it. These two masts fell upon the long boats and killed a number of the passengers and injured many others. The terror which prevailed among them at this time prevented a great many of the passengers from making any attempt to save their lives. Some of them in a paroxysm of despair, threw themselves on the deck in earnest prayer. Although there were eight boats altogether belonging to the ship, owing to the brief time in which she sank the crew were only able to get the Captain's gig and whale boat into the water. The whale boat was launched by the Second Lieutenant, who, with several of the crew and two or three passengers, succeeded in getting into it just in time to escape going down with the ship. Some others got into the Captain's gig, and the few lives saved in these two boats and some others picked up afterward by the Loch Earn were all that escaped out of the 313 souls on board the Ville du Havre when she was struck. The Loch Earn, after clearing away the sinking vessel, put off to a distance of about half a mile, where she hove to, and sent her boats to pick up any of the passengers and crew who might happen to be floating on the sea. Some were found on pieces of plank, some clinging to portions of the broken spars, others on life-buoys, casks and various other remnants of the wreck. Not a single person was saved from the deck, the panic being so great and the time so short before all was over. The Captain and Second Officer behaved with great courage through this scene of agony and despair. They both remained on deck to the last, and went down with the steamer, but came to the surface and floated for three-quarters of an hour, when they were picked up by the whale-boat. The mental anguish of some of the fortunate few whose lives were saved was heart-rending in the extreme. One lady (Mrs. Spafford, of Chicago,) had lost her four children, and another (Mrs. Balkeley) had lost three. A gentleman, who was taking his sister to France for the benefit of her health was among the saved, and his grief on finding that his sister had gone down in the vessel found a parallel only in that of parents who were lamenting the loss of their children and children the loss of their parents. Never can I forget the harrowing scenes which I witnessed on the deck of the Loch Earn—a scene surpassed in agony only by that I had beheld just before on the deck of the ill-fated Ville du Havre. Ladies and gentlemen, who before had never known a single privation, were standing there shivering and destitute, and officers and seamen whose lives, perhaps, had been spent in traveling the ocean, suddenly found themselves helpless and deprived, in some cases of everything they had possessed. About eight o'clock we sighted the American ship Trimountain, bound from New York for Bristol, and upon our signaling her she hove to and bore down alongside of us. We were then all transferred to that vessel, on board of which we were treated with the utmost kindness and consideration, both by Captain Urquhart and his officers and men. Thanks to their kind attention, in two or three days nearly all the survivors had to a great extent recovered from the serious effects of their immersion in the sea."

CHINESE MIRRORS.

Mirrors of highly polished metal are sometimes shown as curiosities which have a remarkable property. One side only of the mirror is polished, the other being dull, and ornamented with various letters or uncouth designs in slightly raised figures. Upon holding the polished side of the mirror towards a wall, the singular phenomena appears of the figures on the back of the mirror being plainly reflected upon the wall, as if the pattern shone through the metal. The mirrors are of Chinese workmanship, and their manufacture is described as follows:

Chinese mirrors are castings of a somewhat porous alloy. Before the reflecting face is finally polished, it is laid on an anvil, and the embossed design or figures at the back well hammered. This, of course, condenses and closes the pores of the metal in these parts, and, in consequence, when the face is finally polished, the metal in front of the design has its power of reflecting light increased, and so gives rise to the fallacious idea that the pattern "shines through" the metal. Old coins in which the letters or dates have become illegible through wear or corrosion may oftentimes be deciphered by polishing the surface with a wheel-brush and fine emery. The reflected image, in some cases—particularly with bronze coins, will then show the figures distinctly. In a stamped coin these are darker than the rest of the disc, because the raised portions were less condensed. Numismatists have long been aware that when there is a difficulty in deciphering a coin almost obliterated, they can frequently determine its date and character by heating it in the dark to a red heat sufficiently to make it self-luminous; the figures, though worn to the surface, having a different density, throw off more or less light, and can thus be distinguished.

Professor Gilbert Govi, of Turin, has thoroughly investigated the matter, and came to the conclusion that the part of the mirror which is not in relief at the back is very thin, and consequently, upon pressure being applied when polishing equally all over it, those parts which correspond to the figures are slightly pressed outwards, and preserve their prominence upon the pressure being withdrawn. The light striking upon these prominences is naturally more diffusely reflected than that which strikes upon the corresponding depression. Hence the curious appearance of the figures dark upon a bright ground. If a mirror which displays them well (and few do so) be examined between the eye and the light, the slight curve of the surface may be detected, and the phenomenon may be exaggerated by pressing the figures with the hand from behind while holding the mirror up to the sun. Good magic mirrors are extremely scarce, and command a high price. This is owing, in some measure, to the difficulty of obtaining the metal homogenous, so that when the polisher arrives at the tenuity proper for displaying the figures, the elacticity of the ground of the pattern may be equal all over the surface of the plate.

The solution of the mystery yet obtained is the following: Metal is of unequal densities in various parts; it is necessarily harder or softer in these various parts, and when the plate is finally polished, the surface, though appearing even, is slightly indented or worn away at those places where the pressure has been applied in the condensing process just mentioned. Again, were a beam of sunlight to fall upon the surface of a basin of perfectly quiescent water, and be reflected upon the ceiling, an even and unbroken disc of light would be seen; but break the surface of the water by tapping the side of the basin, and a series of dark rings are seen in the reflection, converging to the centre. In this case the waves which converge to the centre of the basin by their unevenness disperse or scatter the incident light about the room; and in the case of the Chinese mirrors, the indentations, though extremely slight on its surface, scatter the incident light; hence the pattern of the letters and figures, which have been allowed to remain on the back of the mirror in their integrity for the purposes of ornament and mystification. The convexity of the mirror increases the scattering effect.—[English Mechanic.

THE NAPLES CORAL FISHERY.

Writing from Naples, a correspondent of the London Times says: "Last Thursday, the coral fleet, or the great proportion of the vessels engaged in that arduous though lucrative fishery, came in from the African coast. The rule observed is to suspend work on the vigil of the Madonna del Rosario, and neither for love nor money will the men work after midnight of that day. Their contract terminates then, and away they speed for Torre del Greco for the most part, whence the crew are distributed to their various homes all round the bay. It was a pretty sight to watch the long line of boats with their white wings expanded to catch some impulse from the almost breathless air. All the day they remained in sight from west to east, and it was not until nightfall that they got into port. As a school for sailors none could be better than the coral fishery; and as every Italian is liable to be drawn for the army or navy when he arrives at the age of 21, and as the sea is the favorite element of those who live on the bay, every poor Neapolitan youth on the bay is anxious to get his 'Libretto,' which exempts him from the army, and for the most part engages in the coral fishery. It is a hard service, but is a good preparation for the duties of after life, as schools are established on most of His Majesty's vessels, and rude rustics when their time is up return to their homes licked into shape by the discipline they have undergone, and awakened from the lethargy of ignorance. But to return to the coral fishery. The Captains of the barks send back their treasures at intervals by the vessel which is out once a month from Torre with supplies. Thus, the risk of loss is more or less avoided, and, in spite of storm and shipwreck, some of the fruits, at least, of their labors are guaranteed. This season has been very favorable, and at the beginning of this week, by favor of the proprietor of one of the boats, I was permitted to see all that this crew had taken. There were four chests locked and tightly roped; which had been sent home at intervals, and on being opened they presented a spectacle which few outsiders ever witness. On the top lay the fragments and the smaller, wormlike pieces; while underneath, protected against fracture, were the large and more valuable morsels. Every now and then a brawny arm was plunged in up to the elbow and a real treasure fished up. It is often said that coral—fine rose-colored coral—is worth its weight in gold and when made up it cannot be far from the truth. 'This,' said the captain, pulling out a handkerchief full, which had been stowed away in a corner, 'will sell at 250 lire (£10) the ounce.' It was of a beautiful pink color; 'and this,' he added, putting a not very large branch in my hand, is worth 40 ducats, (between £7 and £8). Altogether the boat had taken 160 kilogrammes, or 5,920 ounces. Had the 'take' been all of pink coral, the profits would have been enormous; but much is of a very inferior character, and so a medium price is fixed. So many ounces of fine coral go to a certain weight of mixed coral, and if the season be good, as it has been this season, the speculation is very profitable. Fortunately, the season did not break during the fishery, so that all hands have returned safe and sound; those from the coast of Algiers having made the voyage in three days. It is not surprising that Torre del Greco is one of the most thriving and improving places on the bay. Its example is being followed by its neighbors, and the Syndic of Castellamare has been stirring up his Council this week to enter on the completion of local works. Considered by themselves, these small townships are not, perhaps, of much importance, but as parts of an aggregate more or less affected by the spirit of rivalry every step forward is encouraging.

JAPANESE TEA.

The larger part of the Japanese tea comes to the United States, England taking very little of it, as the preference there is for black teas, and it has been found more profitable to prepare Japanese teas green—the color which best suits American tea-drinkers. The production of Japan for 1871 was 35,000,000 pounds,—one-half used in that country and the other half exported. The best produced is in the province of Yamashiro, and in some parts of the province there are trees 400 and even 500 years old, which produce tea worth $5 per pound. The tea from young shrubs does not remain good for over a year, while tea from the old trees is at its best the end of a year, and remains so for eight months. An important feature of the Japanese teas is that, as a rule, they are not colored with any pigments, while, in the preparation of Chinese green teas, a mixture of gypsum and Prussian blue, or indigo is used, giving a glazed slate color. The color of the liquor which Japanese uncolored tea draws is a pale olive—not so bright as that drawn from the finest grades of Chinese teas. In Japan they attach great importance to the color of the liquid, as it is a rule the finer the grade of tea, the paler is the liquor it draws. In ordinary Chinese black teas, the flavor of the liquor, is considered of more importance than the color, which is usually reddish. When it is muddy it is a sure sign of adulteration. The Japan tea is packed in half-chest boxes, the average weight being about 46 pounds.

FAREWELL TO THE FLOWERS.

Dear children of the Garden, Field, and Wood
And Wayside, ye have come, and ye have gone,
Like players in some merry interlude,
Between the tragic acts of Winter; on
In gay procession o'er a brilliant zone
Ye've traveled, holding up before the eye
The shape of perfect Beauty, and the tone
Of that harmonious coloring which we try
In vain to equal, or indeed come nigh.

Sweet was the honey which ye gave the bees,
Industrious sippers of your golden cells;
Rich was the fragrance which ye gave the breeze,
As he ran ringing all along your bells;
Glad were ye when the rain from cloudy wells
Sparkled upon your petals, and the sun,
Like one who in the blessed heaven dwells,
Came down and kissed you every one,
And every day until your course was run.

Like one bereaved upon your graves I gaze,
Mourning your absence with unfeigned grief;
Remembrance paints me all your pretty ways,
In your fine progress from your first green loaf,
Until ye stood up like an autumn sheaf
In mellow splendor. O ye fairy things!
Why should ye go down like a sunken reef?
Why like the swallows ply your farewell wings,
And cause the desolation which your absence brings?

Thou Snow-drop, rival of the taintless snow;
Thou Crocus, symbol of the monarch's crown;
Thou Primrose, chiner in a golden show
Which glittered richly all the green bank down;
Thou Daisy, wearer of the bridal gown;
Thou Lily, lady of the ancient Hall;
Thou Poppy, soldier in thy red renown;
Thou Rose, the queen f every bush and wall,
How have ye all gone down under the spoiler's pall?

Farewell! companions of the singing bills,
Of the green grass, and of the yellow crop
Ye friends of rivers and of glassy rills;
Ye watchers on the lofty mountain's top;
Ye worshippers beneath the crystal cope,
And in the flaming, shining, solar fane;
Farewell, farewell, in sorrow and in hope;
Our hearts will linger on in daily pain,
Until we see your happy looks again.

A GORGEOUS EVENT, AND ITS SEQUEL.— TWEED'S DAUGHTER'S OUTFIT.

Now that the statesman Tweed has assumed his position in a public institution in a healthy locality in the vicinity of New York, while some of his disciples in statesmanship have gone into country quarters for the present, says a contemporary, it is rather interesting to read over the story of his daughter's marriage, two years ago last June. The ceremony took place in Trinity chapel, and crowds assembled to gaze upon the magnificence of the affair. At Tweed's residence, the halls, stairways, parlors, and chambers were crowded with the most ingenious arrangements of the most expensive exotics. Among the guests were Commissioner Henry Smith, Sheriff Brennan, Comptroller Connely, Superintendent Kelso, Commissioner John T. Agnew, Congressman S. S. Cox, City Chamberlain Peter B. Sweeny, Commissioner B. F. Manierre, Judges Daly, Bosworth, Barnard Hogan, Senator Michael Norton, Coroner Schirmer, Col. Roberts, Dr. Carnochan, Thomas J. Creamer, James H. Ingersoll, Chauncy Depew, Andrew J. Garvey, Charles Hall, secretary of the American club, and many others, a few of whom it will be noticed, are neither in exile nor in state prison to-day. The presents filled an entire room and were described as follows:

"There were forty silver sets, anyone of which would have attracted a crowd if placed in a jeweler's window, and one single one contained two hundred and forty separate pieces. Mr. James Fisk, Jr. sent a frosted silver contrivance representing an iceberg, evidently intended to hold ice cream or some equally frigid substance. The association was beautifully sustained by the presence of arctic bears reposing on the icicle handles of the bowl and climbing up the spoons. Singularly enough, Mr. Fisk displayed the same taste as Superintendent Kelso, and their offerings were exact duplicates. Among the names on the silver were Shandley, Norton, Witthaus, Carnochan, Maginnis, and many others. There were forty pieces of jewelry, of which fifteen were diamond sets. A single one of the latter is known to have cost $45,000. It contained diamonds as big as filberts. A cross of eleven diamonds, pea size, bore the name of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Genet as honors. A pin of sixty diamonds, representing a sickle and sheaves of wheat, was the gift of J. H. Ingersoll. Peter B. Sweeny's card appeared on diamond bracelets of fabulous magnificence. Cornelius Corson gave a ring with a tiny watch as the seal. Bronzes, thread lace, cashmere shawls, rare pictures, everything that could be conceived of which is rich and costly filled the room with splendor."

The trosseau of the bride included fourteen dresses varying in price from $300 to $3,200 each, though her wedding dress of white gros grain cost $1,000; to which $4,000 worth of point lace was added. A black silk walking suit was decorated with 382 bows, and others were elaborated correspondingly. It was a grand wedding even among the grand weddings of the great city; but now this Tweed is jailed, and there is none so poor as to do him reverence.

THE SHAH AT HOME.

The Shah of Persia having safely returned to his Oriental home and resumed his normal mode of life, those interested in eastern politics are carefully noting whether his visit to the civilized nations of the earth is in any way affecting the policy of his government. These observers maintain that already the influence of the journey is perceptible. There is no doubt that the absence of the Shah from his dominions was a fair test of the security of his throne, for it now turns out that all the reports of political and popular disturbances in Persia during his absence were pure fabrications, to which, it is hinted, the Russian authorities were quite willing to give credence and currency.

Baron Reuter has been at work trying to carry out the terms of his contract with the Shah, and to develop the resources of Persia, but according to a late cable dispatch the Persian government arbitrarily annuls its engagements with him and cancels all its contracts. His intended railway would pass through regions plentifully supplied with coal. The greater part of Persia is utterly destitute of carriage roads, so that the moment a railway is opened it becomes invaluable. Travelers talk of the vast mineral wealth of the country, but this wealth, under existing circumstances, cannot be reached. The tales of the great forest of Mazanderan, where immense oaks, teak and box-wood trees exist in a luxuriance worthy of California, read like fairy stories. But all these sources of national prosperity are unavailable at present, and it is to unlock these hidden stores that the more intelligent of the Persians advocate the construction of railways.

A previous writer on this subject has called the Persians of the lower class "the Irish of the Asiatics." The common people are a lively, thoughtless folk, caring little for the future, and only living from hand to mouth.

The Persian country gentleman is an active man, fond of riding and shooting, but quite above the effeminacy of learning to read and write. He has attached to his household a mirza, or secretary, who writes all his letters, and he affixes his signet to any important document. It is to such people as these that the prosaic yet civilizing influence of the railway is yet to be introduced.

It was well known that the Shah of Persia, on his recent visit to Europe, was particularly struck by the splendor of the Russian Court. The latest accounts from the East show that he has offered to lend Russia material in her schemes of aggrandizement, and is thus bringing the boundary of Russia nearer and nearer to that of his own dominions. The policy of this certainly seems dubious, but as the Shah is now a traveled gentleman he may be supposed to know his own business best.—[N. Y. Post.

MR. BLACK TO MR. ADAMS.

A SCATHING REVIEW OF MR. SEWARD'S POLITICAL CHARACTER—MR. ADAMS SCIENTIFICALLY FLAYED.

[Galaxy for January.]

To the Hon. Charles Francis Adams:

Among a certain class of the American people a desire prevails that your "Memorial Address" on the late William H. Seward should receive a fuller examination than Mr. Welles has given it. His papers are very strong and clear; but there are certain fundamental question which he does not touch, and which the friends of constitutional government cannot allow to be "washed in Lethe and forgotten." In my attempt to supply some of his omissions. I address you directly, because in that form I can best express my great respect for you while I try to expose the errors which I think I have detected in your address.

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Your comparison of Mr. Seward to Pericles was rash and extravagant. A little reflection and another reading of Plutarch will satisfy you that the New York politician bore not the slightest resemblance to the illustrious Athenian whose transcendant genius as a military commander, orator, scholar, philosopher, law-giver, judge, and jurist, brought the greatest people of the earth to the summit of their glory in arms, in arts, and in literature. The difference could not be greater. As men they had something in common—organs, dimensions, senses, affections, passions—and each was remarkable in his way; but everything that distinguished them from the rest of the world distinguished them from one another. They were alike in no characteristic quality, moral or mental. There is not one parallel passage in their history. A true picture of Mr. Seward's life will not show a single feature which can be recognized even as a miniature likeness of any trait in that of Pericles.

It is easy to eulogize a man by appropriating to him the qualities of another whom history has already consecrated to the admiration of mankind. This cheap and compendious mode of dealing with the fame of an ancient hero or sage, by transferring it in bulk to a modern favorite, is often resorted to, and almost always falls of its purpose. Mr. Lincoln was said by his admirers to be a reproduction of Socrates; Robespierre was the Aristides of the French Assembly, and Klootz was Anacharis. Congress and the State Legislatures are full of Catos. We have them among the directors of the Credit Mobilier. I have heard Mr. Ames described as one who was *Catonior Catone*—more severely virtuous than the sternest of Roman censors. Your analogue is more absurd than any of these. You might as well have carried it out by showing that Mr. Thurlow Weed was the counterpart of Aspasia.

But Pericles is not the only famous man that suffers at your hands. Mr. Seward once put in the plea of insanity for a negro accused of murder; and you pronounce his argument "one of the most eloquent in the language." The speeches of such men as Meredith, O'Conor, and Reverdy Johnson are nowhere; and Erskine's magnificent defence of Hatfield is rivalled if not eclipsed.

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But let us go over the particular case of which you have given a most elaborate report derived, no doubt, from Mr. Seward himself, or from somebody else who was decidedly his *comes* and *fidus Achates*. Your own facts and conclusions will show Mr. Seward's real grade as a lawyer, and at the same time test the value of your judgment upon his merits.

A negro was indicted for the wilful, deliberate, and cold-blooded murder of a whole family. The proofs of his guilt were very clear, and the public mind was naturally and justly, pervaded with a desire that he should suffer the punishment due to him by the laws of God and man. It was legally necessary that somebody should appear for him at the trial. But you say that this duty was made so dangerous by the excited state of public feeling, that when the trial was called all the crowd of professional men hung back in terror, all except William Henry Seward; but he, defying the "enormous hazard," and taking his life in his hand, stepped forward and undertook the service. And this you declare to have been a "scene of moral sublimity rarely to be met with in the paths of our common experience."

The moral sublimity of this scene will cease to dazzle you when you recollect that no counsellor ever exposed himself to the slightest danger by defending a criminal. There is no instance on record in which the public wrath, roused by a crime, has been vented in acts of violence, upon the counsel of the maefactor for putting in truthfully and honestly the best answer he could to the charge. Even falsehood, though it provokes contempt, is largely tolerated because it can do no harm in a competent court. The assertion that Mr. Seward was in personal danger is contradicted by all experience in similar cases, and therefore wholly incredible. This acting as volunteer counsel for criminals was then and has always been as safe as it is common. The heroism of it in this case was an afterthought possibly of the hero himself—probably of the *comes*; certainly it did not come spontaneously into *your* head.

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You are out in your chronology when you say that anti-Masonry made him Governor of New York for two terms, unless you mean to credit anti-Masonry with what Whiggery did in pursuance of the bargain and sale. But, in fact, Mr. Seward before his election as Governor had shown the flexibility of his political principles by supporting Masons as heartily as he had ever opposed them. It cannot be said that he was not true to the Whigs as long as he was with them and of them or that he did not earn the promotion they gave him. He went through thick and thin for tariffs, banks, internal improvements by the general government, distribution of surplus revenue, all their superstitions, and in 1840 he kindled in the general blaze of enthusiasm for hard cider and coon skins. He never once broke faith with them by discountenancing any partisan slander which would weaken the Democracy in its desperate struggle to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution.

There is no evidence that he ever contaminated his fingers with base bribes or put into his own pocket the wages of any special iniquity, but Mr. Welles's statement is undeniably true that he was intimately associated with the leaders of the most corrupt rings at Albany and Washington and devoted much of his parliamentary skill to the promotion of their schemes, while they in return were the most efficient supporters he had for the Presidency. As a public debater he was distinguished almost exclusively by elaborate efforts to propagate those licentious doctrines which have since demoralized the public service and put common honesty out of countenance.

One instance you mention which is so characteristic of you, and him both that it must be adverted to. In 1848 the Buffalo Convention nominated Mr. Van Buren and you as candidates for President and Vice President, against General Taylor, the Whig, and General Cass, the Democratic candidate. Mr. Seward professed to believe most devoutly in your anti-slavery platform. Nevertheless he voted and spoke for General Taylor, "a planter holding many slaves in one of the richest cotton producing States." You were astonished and grieved at this inconsistency, which "seemed at the first blush too preposterous to be countenanced for a moment." You have puzzled over this mystery ever since, in the belief that some solution might be given creditable to his patriotism and sincerity; and your explanation is still very far from a clear one. You do not go the right way about it. Your mistake consists in looking for the motives of his conduct among those high public considerations which would have influenced your own in a similar situation. The riddle is easy read. You have only to remember that Whiggery was strong enough to make him a Senator in Congress for which he was at that time a candidate, while you could do nothing for his personal interests. Would he go out empty-handed from a party which was able and willing to give him his "back pay," for the sake of uniting his fortunes with a forlorn organization like yours? Would he "leave that mountain to batten on this moor?" Was it not "preposterous "in you to expect such a sacrifice? You thought, like Othello, that he "should be honest, "he believed, with Jago, that he

> Should be wise, for honesty's a fool,
> That knows not what it works for.

It is now more than time that we turn to his achievements in the field of national politics, and especially to his dealings with the Southern States on the slavery question. Thanks to your researches and your candid account of the result, we are at no loss to understand the character of these measures or the animus with which he advocated them.

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With these views he came into the national councils, and made it known without delay that the experiment was to be tried incontinently. At the very outset of his career in Congress he began to press the bloody cup to the lips of the South. As soon as he had a voice in the Federal legislation he announced that emancipation was near and inevitable. It might be peaceable or violent, and every effort to hinder or delay it "would tend to the consummation of violence." He would hear of no compromise and offer no terms to the South. For them there was but one alternative; submission or death. This mode of beginning his Senatorial duties, persistently followed up, made him your *beau ideal* of a great statesmen; far superior to Clay and Calhoun, who "equally relucted" at his policy; and towering high above Webster, who "never could make up his mind to meet it fully in the face," because he saw there the Union broken into dishonored fragments and the country drenched with fraternal gore.

By many persons who knew him well, these ferocious demonstrations of hostility to the public peace, the Union, and the Constitution, were regarded as the claptrap of a demagogue; shams intended to cajole the ultra abolitionists, and flatter their cruel rapacity with hopes of blood and plunder which would never be gratified. Those who held this opinion, while they did not think him a dangerous man, had a most unspeakable contempt and detestation for his character, But others took him in a more serious way. Southern men especially believed it unsafe to despise his threats of pain and ruin. They watched his gathering strenght with dread and terror, and when his fortunes culminated in the possession of supreme authority they felt that their hour had come.

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A sinful people can never appreciate the holiness of the strangers who kill and rob them for their good. Philip II. and the Duke of Alva determined to lay the Low Countres waste, and extinguish the heresies of the people in their own blood. This was to save their souls. The King expressed the object in his terse Latin: "*Malo regnum vastatum quam damnatum.*', But the Dutch "reluctED" at this mode of salvation as much as Clay and Calhoun, and the whole population "in a moment of resentiment" determined to "die in the last ditch." The righteous souls of the English Puritans were vexed from day to day that Catholicism should exist in Ireland. It was "a relic of barbarism;" it was a "blighting curse;" there was an "irrepressible conflict" between it and the great truths which Puritanism had adopted. So the Puritans, impelled like you by disinterested zeal in a great cause, and not at all by avarice or hatred, plundered the Irish, killed them by thousands, took possession of their churches, banished their native leaders, and set up a government of strangers to tax, tithe, confiscate, and impoverish them. The Irish resisted this, fought it for centuries, and to this day they cannot understand the purity of the Puritans.

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Mr. Seward's reputation must rest forever on the three things which made him especially notorious all the world over, His fame so superior, in your opinion, to that of the men who framed our laws and administered them faithfully for three-quarters of a century, was not won as they won theirs. He was remarkably defective in nearly all the qualities which gave so much grandeur to their characters. But he was unquestionably greater than any or all of them put together on "The Higher Law." "The Irrepressible Conflict," and "The Little Bell." Of these, you touch the first in a gingerly way, and avoid all mention of the other two. If his theory and practice on these points are indefensible, you wronged your country and yourself by calling him a public benefactor and setting him up as "a light and a landmark" to guide his successors.

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Your interpretation of the higher law as operating to fix moral limitations to legislative power is equally inaccurate. You say that the limitation to legislation "may be either purely *material* or it may be *moral*; but in *either* case its power (*i. e.*, the power of the limitation) is *similar*, if not the *same*." Here you mean, if you mean anything, that a rule of civil conduct, enacted and prescribed by the supreme legislative authority of an established State, is as powerless if opposed by a moral objection as if it were in conflict with a material force. You think it safe to affirm that the mere iniquity of a law does *propria vigore*, defeat the intent of the lawgiver, in the same way that the winds and tides are said to have defeated Canute's proclamation to the waves of the Northern Ocean. Reason and history both contradict you. From the days of Nimrod to the time of Grant mankind have been governed by laws as bad as the cruel perversity of their rulers could make them; but so far from being ineffectual, the nations of the earth have groaned under them and struggled against them in vain. Many recent enactments of Congress are open to the gravest moral objections, but no jot or tittle of them falls to the ground for that reason. The infamous combination of Yankee and negro thieves who now have the government of the Southern States in their hands are every day using their power to oppress and plunder their subjects in ways which shock all sense of justice; but their laws are remorselessly executed; right is overborne and wrong revels in its insolent triumph. Here in Pennsylvania a similar class of miscreants have for years been preying like vultures on the prostrate body of the commonwealth. It would be a delightful discovery to find that their enactments are stripped of all force by the self-acting power of the moral limitations which they transgress. But we have no hope of such relief, or any relief at all. Only the other day, in a convention to reform the constitution, an effort was made to provide for the annulment of future immoral laws upon judicial proof of bribery and fraud used to procure their passage. The Convention voted it down. Your fellow-disciples of Mr. Seward who lead us here not only deny that there are any moral limitations to the powers of government and legislation, but they believe that none ought to be imposed even in the grossest cases of the worst laws known to be passed by the most open, shameless, and impudent corruption.

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The higher law doctrine is not an assertion that the power of government and legislation are subject to material or moral limitations, or any limitations whatever. On the contrary, it spurns even the limitations of the Constitution and asserts the right of the ruler to pass all boundaries which his physical force is strong enough to throw down.

In words perfectly free from ambiguity and by a long series of public acts which admit of no doubtful construction Mr. Seward taught disobedience to the Constitution as a duty and contempt for it as a patriotic sentiment. This principle (if it be lawful to call it a principle) was adopted, avowed, and acted upon by his party with almost entire unanimity, whenever and wherever they found their wishes opposed by a constitutional interdict. By him and by them the old notion that the law of the land ought to be obeyed was scoffed at, and the practical assertion of a legal right which they desired to invade was, in cases without number, punished as a crime. This is the higher law which you must vindicate if you desire to prove Mr. Seward a statesman.

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His victims were powerless men and women, who had no defence but their innocence. His great diplomatic achievements which you vaunt so loudly illustrates the rule clearly. Mason and Slidell were captured from a British vessel in plain violation of public law. But if there was a law higher than the Constitution and higher than all laws of God and man, it must also be higher than the law of nations. Why should not the higher law "have free course to run and be glorified" on sea as well as on land? The President could not see his way through these logical difficulties and the capital was all in a muddle. Mr. Blair denounced the conduct of Wilkes as an indefensible outrage, which would be sure to make trouble, while Mr. Seward was as much delighted as if one of his deputy kidnappers had broken the head of an honest judge or dragged an independent editor to prison. But he remained in this frame of mind only as long as he supposed that England could not or would not resent the injury. He understood his own code well enough to know that it did not apply to a case in which the right was defended by a force strong enough to repel the wrong. When, therefore, England armed herself and uttered her stern demand for immediate reparation, his whole tone was changed. He not only backed squarely down, but he signalized the humiliation of the higher law by long-winded and superfluous praises of legal justice—

> ——mouth-honor, breath,
> Which the poor heart would fain deny, but dare not.

. . . . . .

Called by other names, the higher law was practised often before it was introduced here. Amurath securing his throne by killing all his brothers and uncles; Herod slaughtering the innocents; Nero persecuting the Christians; Mme. de Pompadour filling the Bastille with victims of her petty spite; Lola Montez setting her dogs on the students at Munich for doubting the political wisdom of the King's mistress—all these acted upon the same kind of law that Mr. Seward declared to be higher than the American Constitution. It reduces free government to a personal despotism. The citizen who voluntarily submits to it is a slave in his soul.

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Let me tell you a fact. In 1865, months after the peace, at the political metropolis of the nation, in full sight of the Executive Mansion, the Capitol, and the City Hall where the courts were in session, a perfectly innocent and most respectable woman was lawlessly dragged away from her family and brutally put to death, without judge or jury, upon the mere order of certain military officers convoked for the purpose. It was, take it for all in all, as foul a murder as ever blackened the face of God's sky. But it was done in strict accordance with higher law, and the law department of the United States approved it. Now mark you: Within less than three months past, the present Attorney-General officially referred to this as a precedent entirely fit to be followed. This may not be very important in itself, but it is significant as showing that the reign of higher law is not over yet. Can you promise that it ever will be? Is there not reason to fear that this doctrine has poisoned all the streams of justice?

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You know what the Irrepressible Conflict was as Mr. Seward uttered it at Rochester. I present an analysis which you will admit to be accurate. He announced that:

1. There was then a *conflict* between the North and the South—not merely a conflict of interests, opinions, and feelings to be determined peaceably by reason or law; but,

2. It was a conflict between the *opposing forces* of the Northern and Southern States. Actual war already existed; the relation of the parties was that of belligerent enemies.

3. The determined purpose of this war on one side was to *plant* slavery in the *North* by force, and on the other to abolish it in the *South* by similar means. This of course involved the complete subjugation of the defeated party.

4. The conflict was *irrepressible*. The dogs of war were loose and *could not* be chained up again.

5. The conflict *should not* be stopped; it *must* go on until all the rights of one section should be trampled down under the hostile feet of the other. Woe to the conquered!

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Before you asserted that Mr. Seward *saved* the country you ought to have remembered that if the nation had been saved from him and his followers, and the irrepressible conflict which they created, it would have needed no other salvation.

Now as to the little bell. The same higher law which gave the Federal Government power to legislate against the States in defiance of the Constitution would logically justify any Executive outrage that might be desired for personal or party purposes on the life, liberty, and property of individuals. Such was Mr. Seward's theory, and such was the practice of himself and his subordinates and some of his colleagues. I will not pain you by a recital of the wanton cruelties they inflicted upon unoffending citizens. I have neither space, nor time nor skill to paint them. A life-size picture of them would cover more canvass than there is on the earth. You were abroad as Minister to England when most of them were done; but every wind bore you the reports, and you must have blushed for your country when you saw her degraded in the eyes of the whole world. Since the fall of Robespierre nothing has occurred to cast so much disrepute on Republican institutions.

When Mr. Seward went into the State Department he took a *little bell* to his office in place of the statute book, and this piece of sounding brass came to be a symbol of the higher law. When he desired to kidnap a free citizen, to banish him, to despoil him of his property, or to kill him after the mockery of a military trial, he rang his little bell and the deed was done.

This man to whom you would assign a place in history above all other American statesmen, took a childish delight in the perverted use of his power, and displayed it as ostentatiously as one of those half-witted boys who were sometimes raised to the purple in the evil days of the Roman empire. He boasted of it on many occasions, and crowed over the British Minister, telling him that his Queen could not do so much. Lord Lyons was dumb. Victoria had no little bell of that kind; she swore at her coronation to govern according to the laws of the realm, and she must keep her oath. For more than two centuries no English monarch had tried the experiment of higher law on his people. Under Charles I., Strafford declared that "the King's little finger was thicker than the loins of the law;" but he was tried for this and put to death as a traitor. For acting upon Strafford's suggestion the people rose upon the King himself, dragged him to the block, and chopped his head off; and the God of justice looked down from his great white throne in the heavens and smiled upon the deed.

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By Mr. Welles's paper it is distinctly made known that Mr Seward, as soon as he came into office, concocted a scheme for the surrender of Fort Sumter into the hands of the Secessionists; that he drew General Scott into it, and tried to get the President's assent also; that the President having declined to surrender, and determined to reinforce the place, a confidential friend and *protege* of Mr. Seward notified his confederates in the South of the movement about to be made; that the whole plan and arrangement of the Administration for the relief of the fort was brought to nothing by a series of secret, deceptive and underhand manœuvres which Mr. Seward carried on without the knowledge of the War or Navy Department, and that while he was thus betraying his own associates he wrote to Secessionists that his faith pledged to *them* would be fully kept. These accusations seem to be proved by overwhelming evidence. I do not suppose that this will shake your faith in Mr. Seward's integrity and wisdom, or detract one atom from your admiration for the grand simplicity of his character. But suppose such a revelation to be made concerning a member of the Buchanan administration, what would you say? Would you present him to the country as its best example of a statesman, or would you hang him up for the execration of the world? Would you sing pæans to his virtue or "cleave the general ear with horrid speech" about his wickedness?

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Since you and Mr. Welles and Mr. Blair have put on record your personal reminiscences of him I will add my contribution, believing that the fact I am about to mention throws a broader light on his public character than any which you have given.

When the troubles were at their worst, certain Southern gentlemen, through Judge Campbell of the Supreme Court, requested me to meet Mr. Seward and see if he would not give them some ground on which they could stand with safety inside of the Union. I consented, and we met at the State Department. The conference was long and earnest, I cannot, within these limits, set forth even the substance of it. He seemed conscious of his power, and willing to use it in the interests of peace and union as far as he could without the risk of offending his own party. What could he do? Many propositions were discussed, and rejected as being either impractable or likely to prove useless, before I told him what I felt perfectly sure would stop all controversy at once and forever. I proposed that he should simply pledge himself and the incoming Administration to govern according to the Constitution, and upon every disputed point of constitutional law to accept that exposition of it which had been or might be given by the judicial authorities. He started at this, became excited and violently declared he would do no such thing. "That," said he, "is treason; that would make me agree to the Dred Scott case." In vain I told him that he was not required to admit the correctness of any particular case, but merly to submit to it as the decison of the highest tribunal, from which there could be no appeal except to the sword.

. . . . . .

I had never before heard that *treason* was obedience to the Constitution as construed by the courts; but this prepared me to learn, as I did some time afterward, that the correlative virtue of *loyalty* consisted in trampling the laws under foot. What should the world think of the statesmanship which introduced these notions?

I do not know, but I believe that Mr. Seward, in consequence of the conversation above mentioned, got Mr. Lincoln to commit himself in the

Weekly Post.

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Pittsburgh, Saturday, Dec. 27, 1873

THE taxpayers of Pittsburgh will be called on to pay more taxes during the Tweed and Fiskal year of 1874-5, than they did during the fiscal year of 1873-4. This is not copy-righted.

THE colored voters fought nobly in this city, at the recent election for the new Constitution. They broke from the Ring, and almost to a man stood up for reform and free elections.

HARRY GENET, the convicted Ring thief, in New York, escaped from Deputy Sheriff Shields yesterday, while awaiting sentence. It looks rather suspicious for Mr. Shields.

ENGLAND now proposes to take a hand in the Cuban business, if we are to believe reports. She has demanded satisfaction for the execution of the British subjects who were on board the Virginius.

OUT west, when women are running for office, the newspapers whose candidates have been elected, no longer place defiant roosters at the head of their columns. A modest hen broods over the glad tidings of election.

A VALUED correspondent calls our attention to the fact that the official majority for the new Constitution in Washington county is 3,988. The wool growers didn't scare worth a cent over the Pittsburgh Commercial's story concerning the tax on sheep.

THE Republican papers are beginning to admit that the past frauds in Philadelphia gave the party its majority. This is true of the Governor and and the State Treasurer. This last individual, who now lives in splendid style in that city, should resign if he has any shame left.

CONTROLLER MCGOWAN and the members of the Water Bond Commission tendered their resignations at the special meeting of Councils yesterday, which were accepted. In doing so they followed the advice of THE POST. Had they taken our advice earlier in the season, many unpleasant developments might have been saved.

THE Constitutional Convention will have to interpret its own work at the adjourned session in Harrisburg. Already a difference of opinion exists as to the time when elections should be held for officers expiring in January 1875. Whether in February '74 or '75. The framers of the instrument ought to be authority upon the spirit as will as the letter.

THAT unwonted privations are experienced by workingmen this winter in most of the industrial centres of the country, there can not be the slightest doubt. Mills and factories closed, savings expended already in providing for their families, and no prospect of immediate income, thousands of them are literally thrown upon the charity of their fellow men.—Dispatch.

We do not wish to be inquisitive, but are these the good times the workingmen were promised provided they re-elected President Grant? All the inflictions that were predicted in case Horace Greeley should become President are now upon us and it must not be forgotten, they have been caused solely by Radical mismanagement.

THE effects of the new Constitution are now to be considered. Before the election the Ring declared that its adoption would have the effect of restoring the Democratic party to power. We do not suppose that the hundreds of thousands of honest Republicans who voted for the Constitution all believed this, or if they did, that that danger had no terrors for them. The greatest and best result of the new Constitution will be to secure fair elections, and the nominating by both parties of better men for office. But the fact that mortifies the Ring, both the tyrants and the tools of which it is composed,—the fact that sinks deep into their degraded souls, is, that the Democrats have steadily demanded the relief from robbery and roguery which this Constitution will afford. It was the Democrats who chiefly, almost exclusively, denounced and accused the Ring for its malfeasances, and pointed out as the only remedy, a radical change in the State Constitution. That change has been made and ratified by popular suffrage. And such a ratification! Why the like has never been seen in this country. Never were the people of Pennsylvania so harmonious and so unanimous on any question. No wonder the Ring swears and "tears its hair," about the new Constitution.

WANTED TO BE EXCUSED.

The election in Philadelphia one week ago to-day was not marked by the frauds that have for years characterized the elections in that city, not because the Ring was actuated by honest motives, but because the scoundrels who have heretofore been guilty of the outrages, were afraid to perpetrate them as extensively as heretofore. That a bold attempt to commit frauds was made, admits of no sort of doubt. All the machinery was arranged, but the engineers dare not set it in motion.

Mayor Stokely did not desire to be "put in a hole"—whatever that may mean—and therefore was willing to give the correct returns in the afternoon to the press reporters. This is a species of eleventh hour virtue, which, while it does not reflect unbounded credit upon Mayor Stokely, gives us a pretty clear idea of the way in which the party of Addition, Division and Silence have hitherto manufactured Radical majorities in Philadelphia.

The vote at the different polling places was telegraphed to the central headquarters of the Ring—a false count was bulletined therefrom to the public, advices were received from other parts of the State by which it was known how large the majority must be from Philadelphia, and from these headquarters instructions were dispatched to the scoundrels in charge of the balloting places to stuff the ballot-boxes so as to correspond with the lying counts that were being sent abroad from the Mayor's office. Here is the whole business in a nut shell.

Mayor Stokely, in his anxiety not to be "put in a hole," told the entire story. By the Philadelphia papers we see that everything was arranged to count a large fraudulent majority in Philadelphia against the new Constitution, but that Mayor Stokely, who was clearly in this arrangement as he had been in others, thought that he could best improve his future prospects by preventing the fraud. The case of the Nineteenth ward is given. The one o'clock count as first announced to the reporters, gave a majority of 5,400 against the Constitution. With all the facts before him and knowing this count to be false, Mayor Stokely gave it out to the reporters. But a sudden fear made him virtuous. He called the reporters back, told them that he did not want to be "put in any hole," and gave them the true returns, which showed a majority in favor of the Constitution of 2,957 votes, making a difference of 8,357.

By this it will be seen that up to one o'clock on the day of election, all the arrangements had been made to commit a fraud of over eight thousand votes in a single ward, which would have reached fully twelve thousand by the time the polls closed. This arrangement carried out in all the wards, and Philadelphia would have given 100,000 majority against the Constitution. With the contemplated fraud, Mayor Stokely could not help but be privy, else he could not have exposed the false returns and given the true one. The question naturally arises why Mayor Stokely, if he did not want to be "put into a hole," did not expose the Ring arrangement earlier in the day? Why wait until the middle of the afternoon before telling the truth in the interest of an honest election? It is barely possible—nay, it is wholly probable, that Mr. Stokely had found out that the rest of the State was going to put the Ring "into a hole," despite all the frauds they could commit in Philadelphia, and he seized upon the last chance to keep out of the hole himself.

Mr. Stokely wants to be the centennial Mayor of Philadelphia, but we submit whether this gush of eleventh hour virtue entitles him to such high consideration. According to his own statement he told the truth and exposed the frauds that were being systematically arranged, not because it was honest and right to do so, but because he did not want to "be put into a hole." It is not the best recommendation, after a man finds that fraud is not going to win the day to come out at the last hour in favor of honesty.

We have not the slightest doubt that Mayor Stokely has the greatest aversion to being "put in a hole," but we are of the opinion that the people of Philadelphia will exhibit wisdom in putting him there notwithstanding. Repentance, after conviction and judgment, is not entitled to the very highest consideration. If we are not very much mistaken, in view of the revelations of the way the Ring machine in Philadelphia was being worked a week ago, Mr. Stokely knows something about the way Mr. Buckalew was "put in the hole" in 1872, and how the same favor was done Mr. Hutchinson in 1873. Why wasn't he moved to expose the thing then?

The Chief Magistrate of a great city who, from six until two o'clock; will connive at fraud and ballot-box stuffing, by keeping silence, and then only expose it for his own personal advantage, or to prevent his own personal overthrow and demolition, ought to "be put in a hole." It is always safe to put such men in holes with all possible dispatch.

OHIO'S TALL GOVERNOR.

On Monday, the 12th day of January 1873, the Hon. William Allen, Governor elect of Ohio, will be inaugurated with appropriate and imposing ceremonies. The inauguration will undoubtedly be one of the most imposing affairs of the kind ever held in the State. It is believed that not less than 100,000 citizens of the State outside of Columbus, will be in attendance. Beside large numbers of civic and military associations which will be in attendance, the Hon. James Emmitt of Pike county proposes that the men who, in 1833, voted for William Allen for Congress in the Congressional District, which, was then composed of the counties of Ross, Pike, Scioto, Jackson, Adams and Brown, and who voted for him for Governor in 1873, should attend the inauguration in a body.

Governor Allen will take up his residence at the Niel House on the 7th of January. On the evening of the 12th a grand Inauguration Ball will be given. Hon. Jno. G. Thompson will accept our thanks for an invitation to be present on that festive occasion.

AT HIS OLD TRICKS AGAIN.

The Swoope, is out in an article whitewashing Grant's nominee for Supreme Judge, Geo. H. Williams. He tells us that the writer has served under Williams' Attorney Generalship, and that that department "had a head" and if the writer "could convey *his* official knowledge of the ability and impartiality with which Judge Williams has discharged the grave and important duties," &c.

Now how are we to know that the Swoope is not playing double again? It has not been so long ago and we can all remember, how he pitched into Bob Mackey and the Ring and how, as soon as Mackey was nominated he turned in and supported him. Then when Swoope received those "private letters" from "careful friends" charging members of the Constitutional Convention with bribery and THE POST said he was getting ready to go back on the new Constitution, how quick he was to deny it and in a few days thereafter came out strongly in opposition thereto.

In view of these recent occurrences what guarantee have we that in less than a fortnight he will not go back on Judge Williams? Why simply none at all.

PARTLY CONFESSES.

The Gazette, now the organ of the Republican wing of the Constitutional reform party, is growing belligerant, and is almost disposed to tell all it knows about the rascals in its own party. Why don't it state distinctly that Mackey's majority was alone obtained in Philadelphia, as Hutchinson, the Democratic candidate, had a clear majority in the State outside of that city, were sufficient returns were manipulated to secure the present incumbent. Does any man of sense, in view of the recent vote, doubt it? We clip the following confession from the Gazette, which is expressly intended for Mr. Mackey and his Ring worms. He ought to sue for libel.

The only weakness the Republican party has developed in this State, has grown out of outrages on individual rights, perpetrated by the State ring. Time and again, the best men in the party have been counted out of nomination so shamelessly that they and their friends were either lukewarm, or positively hostile to those put in nomination. We know that this has occurred time and again; and these are the reasons why small majorities have been secured, after an expenditure of enormous labor. To pass by minor examples of the truth of our remark, it is a well known fact that the Republican party was throttled in order that nominations might be controlled last summer. Conventions were held long before public opinion had developed, and when it did, the party was bound and gagged. What was the result? On an honest count of votes in the State the ticket was barely elected. The tactics of Philadelphia were necessary to save it. The vote, as it stands, shows the majority outside of Philadelphia to have been very slender. We say these things, not to make war on individuals, but to emphasize a fact.

PUBLIC EXPENDITURES.

When Congress assembled, and the estimates for the appropriations for the fiscal year of 1874 were submitted by the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, the whole country was startled to learn that the revenue receipts would fall from forty to fifty million of dollars below the expenditures. Since that announcement, there have been a number of explanations volunteered by the friends of the Administration in explanation of the increase in expenditures. The favorite theory seems to be that the difference is only apparent, not real, from the fact that the revenues have fallen off in exact proportion to the apparent increase.

But this theory is badly exploded by the Commercial's Washington correspondent who gives some tables of figures. The net receipts from all sources for the year 1874 are placed at $314,026,286 59 and the actual disbursements for the same period is given as follows:

Legislative	$7,053,799 96
Executive proper	87,693 33
State Department	1,393,213 50
Treasury "	140,345,604 88
War "	46,036,894 10
Navy "	23,144,907 82
Interior "	42,506,541 04
Post Office "	5,942,365 80
Agricultural Department	226,941 77
Department of Justice	264,054, 16
Judiciary	3,732,302 03
Total actual expenses	$270,853,327 28

The estimates for 1875 and the appropriations for 1874 are as follows:

	Estimates for 1875	Appropriations for 1874
Legislative Establishm't	$3,961,405 62	$3,966,777 98
Executive Establishm't	17,895,674 90	17,899,741 69
Judicial Establishment	3,408,750 00	3,433,050 00
Foreign Intercourse	3,337,304 00	1,932,525 00
Military Establishment	34,881,618 10	32,154,220 11
Naval Establishment	19,254,935 86	22,300,957 64
Indian Affairs	6,765,579 61	5,530,219 30
Pensions	29,480,000 00	30,480,000 00
Public Works	23,168,297 10	24,343,833 61
Postal Service	6,811,363 00	7,296,662 00
Miscellaneous	10,704,281 42	8,576,614 50
Perman't Appropriations	146,581,257 21	146,944,650 49
Grand totals	$310,199,736 82	$306,099,253 24

By reference to the arrangement or division of these appropriations arranged under the heads of departments, we find them distributed as follows:

	Estimates for 1875.	Appropriations for 1874.
Congress	$ 8,281,570 05	$ 6,518,793 47
Executive Proper	81,300 00	81,300 00
Department of State	2,072,254 03	1,937,845 10
Treasury Department	173,384,905 15	175,069,877 97
War Department	60,189,023 89	46,519,374 13
Navy Department	20,268,435 14	24,231,039 65
Interior Department	41,756,053 71	40,697,726 62
Post Office Dep't	7,344,235 00	7,783,014 00
Dep't of Justice	3,091,800 00	3,092,940 00
Dep't of Agriculture	273,360 00	267,680 10
Grand total	$319,188,736 82	$306,099,292 24

This does not look very much as if the increase was only fictitious, and dependent only upon the falling off of the revenues. By a comparison of the total expenditures, it will be seen that the appropriations for 1874 are $35,526,924.99, and the estimates for 1875, are $48,565,409.57 in excess of the public expenditures of 1873.

An analysis of the estimated expenditures of the different departments shows that there is an increase in 1874 over 1873 in round numbers for Congress, $1,000,000; State department: $2,000,000; Treasury department, $33,000,000; War department $14,000,000, Post Office department, $2,000,000; while the appropriations for 1874 indicate the following increase over 1873; department of State; $700,000: department of Treasury, $35,000,000; Navy, $1,000,000, Post Office, $2,000,000, while some smaller items of increase swell it to fully $40,000,000.

It will be seen at a glance, that the appropriations for 1874, exceed the expenditures for 1873, by fully $35,000,000, and in 1875 by $48,000,000. This, then, is not the result of a falling off in revenue receipts, as the friends of the Administration would have the country believe, but is in consequence of the large, and in some instances: extraordinary increase in the expenditures of the departments, as we have pointed out.

The extraordinary increase, for instance, in the Treasury department of thirty-three millions in 1874 and thirty-five millions in 1875, needs a more lucid explanation than either Mr. Richardson or Mr. Dawes has yet given it. What disposition is proposed to be made of the money?

The fact is, that the extravagance of the Republican leaders in Congress, and at the heads of the departments, and the vascillating and unreliable financial policy of the Administration, has caused all this. Instead of a return of prosperity, we are to have a return of taxation, or what is equally bad, the government will have to turn borrower, at a time when it ought to be able to meet all current expenses, if the national finances had been discreetly managed.

During Grant's candidancy, Mr. Henry Clews, and the other government brokers and pap-suckers in every trade centre of the country, prophesied the direst calamity if the Radical managers were turned out of power, and promised the people, if they would vote to continue the party in power the most perfect prosperity and reduced taxation. This is the way their promises have been kept. Additional taxes are to be saddled upon a hood-winked community, and that too upon the same kind of false pretenses, by which Grant and his followers secured a new lease of power. The lesson is a severe one, but we hope that the people will profit by it in the future.

HISTORY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY.

We are indebted to the author, Alfred Creigh, L. L. D. for a copy of his exceedingly interesting and valuable work, entitled a History of Washington county, from its first settlement to the present time; first under Virginia as Yohogania, Ohio or Augusta, county until 1771, and subsequently under Pennsylvania with sketches of all the boroughs, townships and villages and to which is added a full account of Mason and Dixon's line, the whisky insurrection, Indian warfare, traditional and local historical events. Dr. Creigh has rendered a marked service to his county which we hope he will follow up. Could he not be induced to give us a history of Allegheny County, or what would be of infinitely more importance, prepare for the use of our public schools a succinct history of Pennsylvania? He has the ability and we are informed the inclination to enter upon such a work with a reasonable amount of encouragement.

We recommend this subject to the earnest attention of Mr. Wickersham, and hope its necessity will appeal to his judgment. A most interesting history, adapted to the comprehension of pupils could be arranged, which would furnish to the present and future generations such information in regard to this great Commonwealth as to entitle it to a high place among historical works. At least give us a history of Allegheny County before the oldest inhabitants and old landmarks have disappeared.

THE WAY TO DO IT.

The Councils of Philadelphia like Mayor Stokely don't want to be "put in hole," and have appointed a committee to investigate the recent frauds. What a pity this committee could not go back and expose the frauds of the past twelve years. Where it could be shown that Woodward, Clymer, Packer and Buckalew, Democratic candidates for Governor, were all legally elected. The Philadelphia Ledger makes the following statement in relation to the manner of conducting elections by the Ring:

The proceedings charged against Porter, the Judge of the Seventh Division of the Eleventh ward, shows another phase of the comprehensive and far-reaching machinery of fraud, by means of which the election returns of Philadelphia have been heretofore manufactured. In the Nineteenth ward case it was a square audacious scaling of the election returns according to a ratio of eight to one—in the Porter case it was bold, audacious, stuffing of the ballot-box with votes by the handful. These two processes, however, are but a portion of the machinery of fraud furnished by the Registry law; which begins with the addition of bogus names by canvassers, to be voted by "repeaters;" which continues, if that is not enough, by the omission of the names of qualified voters who do not belong to the "Ring;" which proceeds, if these be not enough, by the substitution of one kind of ballots for another at every division poll under the dominion of the Ring; which further continues, if the aggregate for the foregoing be not enough, to the stuffing of the box, as in the Porter case; which still further goes on, if necessity demands it, to the changing of the figures in the division returns, by adding and subtracting or transposing the figures so as to leave the totals the same; and, finally, if all those fail to work out the result, to the still further change of the figures in the ward returns, so as to leave the totals the same. It is a system of "elastic" election machinery, capable of producing any fraudulent result. It is the "Tweed system," and Tweed is in the penitentiary. Is the monstrous attempt of last Tuesday, in this city, to work this system at a vital election on changing the Constitution of the State to be let go by, with Council Committee investigation? Is there nobody in office to take or official judicial notice of such a monstrous offence against the whole body of the people of the State?

THE NEW DEAL.

We are in a fair way to provide competent officials and instead of going to a rolling mill to select a controller, we shall get a competent business man, and so through all the commissions and trusts, to whom are entrusted the people's money. If there is one position more than another which demands a high order of ability, it is the civil Engineer department. A false idea of economy cheapened the office and reduced it to a low grade. Incompetency pervades it from top to bottom, which has not only been the means of great loss to the city and citizens, but resulted in irreparable injury to property. It is not too late to secure the services of a first class Engineer, who should be paid a liberal salary, who would not descend to play partner with petty rings and take advantage of every opening to put money in his purse in the matter of highways or byways, or sewers, or plans of lots in the interest of speculators. We understand the services of W. Milnor Roberts, Esq., could be secured at the present time: if so, no better man in all this country could be had for the position. We hope councils will give this matter early and earnest attention and thereby extort public confidence to their efforts to rescue this city from the hands of knaves and imbeciles.

THE N. Y. Evening Post, under the head "Let Congress Go Home," says that the country could get along very well, even permanently, without the Forty-third Congress. The Post remarks: "Congress has been in season three weeks, and while it has done some bad things, it has done absolutely nothing to promote the interests of the country. It has appropriated four million dollars to maintain extravagance in the navy department: it has received and referred a score of bills for magnificent gifts to impossible canals; the house has voted to print a quarter of a million copies of the agricultural report, at a cost of half a million dollars, for free distribution, and has substantially ratified the old "salary grab" by making another almost equally bad; while the Senate has spent its time in listening to speeches on finance, without one practical effort at relief, and in pretending to deliberate upon nominations, as to whose character the majority have decided in advance."

LAST year, says the Springfield Republican, the voters were warned in an impressive manner that Horace Greeley would infallibly play the mischief with the finances. It is Gen. Grant, and not Horace Greeley, that is at the White House, yet expenses are in excess of the revenues, the National debt—which Mr. Boutwell used to reduce so charmingly—is growing at the rate of millions a month, and Mr. Boutwell's successor and pupil is clear that the yearly taxation, notwithstanding the hard times, must be increased by some $42,000,000. This is not at all the sort of entertainment to which the loyal voter was invited, and he is not a little puzzled to know what to make of it.

THE Philadelphia Inquirer, Rep., thinks we are taxed too much already and that:

"It ought to be considered a proof that we are taxed too much that the Secretary of the Treasury reports, every month that he has in the Treasury $100,000,000 and over after paying all demands upon him. Congress should be careful not to authorize this revival of taxation. At a time when the industrial interests of the country are suffering the effort should be strenuous to avoid the opening of new drains upon our vitality, and if it is enforced let it be upon such articles as whisky, tobacco and railroad receipts, and not on the necessaries of tea, coffee and gas, as the Secretary of the Treasury insists."

THE Pittsburgh POST comes to us bristling all over with tokens of jubilation at the result of the election in Pennsylvania, by which the new state constitution is adopted, as THE POST says, by a majority of over one hundred thousand. It is assumed that the adoption of this constitution will insure an honest administration of affairs in Pennsylvania hereafter. It is to be hoped these fond dreams will be realized, but as Cameron and several others are still permitted by its provisions to live, we do not see exactly how they are to be. —Milwaukee News.

THE Telegraph on yesterday informs us that the rule of the Radical "Ring" in Pennsylvania has been overthrown by one hundred and fifty thousand majority! This is another great Conservative victory. The next thing will be to bring the thieves to judgment. Put all the Philadelphia Tweeds into the Cherry Hill prison, from Cameron and Hartranft down to the gutter scamps! This should be the next reform. It would be best to hang them, but life imprisonment will do.—Montgomery (Ala.) Mail.

THUS the Springfield Republican strikes a Presidential candidate a terrible blow:

The Cincinnati Commercial, we notice, is still impressed with a conviction, or premonition, that Mr. Elihu B. Washburne, of Galena and Paris, is the coming Presidential candidate. Would it surprise the Cincinnati Commercial to know that Mr. Elihu B. Washburne was in the salary increase line earlier than any other man in the country, unless that other man is the President of the United States, and that his services as dry nurse to the "grab," during its tender days, were simply invaluable.

PHILADELPHIA is discussing the necessity of "additional precautions for the safety of Independence Hall." Although the Ring thieves are impudent, enterprising, and comprehensive in their robbing, we have not supposed that Independence Hall has been in danger of being carried off. It might be well, however, to chain it down, and plant a row of bull dogs around it nights.—N. Y. Sun.

THE beneficial effect of the new Constitution of Pennsylvania is already becoming apparent in Philadelphia. A ballot-box stuffer has been arrested for the offense committed during the vote on the adoption of the new Constitution. If the Constitution had been rejected, it is not likely that the arrest would have been made.—Chicago Tribune.

THE BACK-PAY GRAB.

SPEECH OF HON. HEISTER CLYMER—REPEAL THE EXECUTIVE'S INCREASED PAY AS WELL AS OTHERS.

[From the Congressional Record, Dec. 18.]

Mr. Clymer—Mr. Speaker, in the shred of time allotted me under the order of the House on this question, I cannot make an argument. If I succeed in briefly stating my own views with reference to this bill, and what I desire to do upon it, I shall have accomplished all that is possible under the circumstances.

Let me say, before proceeding further, that I deeply regret (and I say it with all kindness) the tone and temper in which this question has been discussed here. The debate has been conducted too largely in a spirit of crimination and recrimination. The tone of attempted explanation and exculpation which has characterized many of the speeches delivered will not, I fear, add to the confidence with which the people will regard our deliberations or the satisfaction with which they will regard the result at which we may arrive.

Sir, if I had my own way in this matter I would repeal the whole increase of salaries made by the act of March last, so far as we constitutionally may; and then, in the light of the discussion we have had here, with the benefit of the discussion in the press and among the people of this subject, I would, with deliberation, in open day, raise a committee which should dispose of this whole question, so far as it affects all officers, from the President of the United States downward. If this course had been adopted, no matter what might have been the conclusion arrived at, whether the salaries finally agreed upon were those fixed by the pending bill or those provided by the act of March 3, 1873, our decision, adopted by such a process and under such circumstances, would have been willingly accepted by the people of the United States.

But, sir, the House having declined to take this course, I wish to indicate wherein I dissent from the provisions of the pending bill, wherein I approve of them, and how I would desire to alter them. In the first place I would make the deduction applicable to the present Executive. I would repeal his increased salary as well as that of others. I would repeal it because it is excessive as compared with that of every other official, as it was asserted and shown by the honorable and able chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, that he receives in addition to it more than $50,000 a year by way of appropriations to his personal establishment. If the constitutionality of its repeal be questioned, it is not to be doubted that in more than one instance the President has affixed his signature to bills of more doubtful constitutionality than this; but if the question should be raised, let it be settled by the courts, where it properly belongs. The President being the only person affected, and his signature being the highest evidence of his belief in its constitutionality, surely his mouth should be closed forever, and it is not likely, therefore, that the question would ever be raised. Sir, if there were sincerity and honest purpose in his late recommendation to Congress to adopt a constitutional amendment giving the President power to veto portions of an appropriation bill while approving others—if this recommendation was not intended merely to evade responsibility for the past and to cast an implied imputation upon the action of the Forty-second Congress on this subject, it will doubtless be his highest satisfaction to have this opportunity to vindicate his action and motives. I would propose to give it to him. I trust his friends and supporters will not deny it to him.

I am in favor of the provision of the bill maintaining the salaries of the judges as now fixed. I am in favor of this because we require—at least we have heretofore required—in these officers that "skilled mental power" so eloquently described by the honorable and learned gentleman from Georgia, [Mr. Stephens.] Heretofore we have demanded of them high character, great legal learning, unspotted moral worth. They may not engage in any of the ordinary pursuits of life. They may not better their fortunes by "accepting gifts," thereby imitating the example of him who by the common consent of the age in which he lived, and of all succeeding time, was

"The brightest, wisest and meanest of mankind."

With reference to the pay of members of the Cabinet, with reference to the pay of employees, of this House, I may have my doubts as to what the respective amounts should be; and that question could have been best settled by the process I suggested in the opening of my remarks—that is, by deliberate consideration and report of a committee.

One word more, and I shall have finished. I have heard much on this floor in regard to "popular clamor." I have heard it denounced. I have heard it scouted at. I have heard gentlemen say they would defy it. I wish to say that for long years the people of this land have been astounded by frauds and corruptions in private life and in official position—in municipal, State and national affairs. Everywhere corruption and fraud have stalked abroad defiant and unpunished. Sir, the occurrences here during the last session of the Forty-second Congress, referred to in general terms by the gentleman from New York, [Mr. Tremain,] and more particularly by the honorable gentleman from Wisconsin, [Mr. Eldridge,] who addressed the House yesterday, did not do anything to calm this feeling in the mind of the public, but rather excited it still further. And this increase of salary was "the last straw which broke the camel's back."

Public clamor! What is it? It is the first evidence of the coming storm of public wrath which is rising all around and about us. He who conceives that he can withstand or defy its fury will find himself overwhelmed and undone. Yesterday, sir, it raged over the grand old Commonwealth which I have the honor in part to represent. It swept from her river which flows to the sea to that which empties into the Gulf; from her lake on the north to her southern borders. It has rendered forever hereafter impossible fraud in her elections, and has exercised the corruption in her legislations which has heretofore cursed and degraded her.

This is what this public opinion has done for my State, and what, when needed, it will do for others; and when we bow to it, when we submit to it fairly and honestly, as we may and should, the people will rejoice, sustain and approve.

I have exhausted my time and will trespass upon the attention of the House no longer.

THE BANNER COUNTY.

Editors of The Post:

FRANKLIN, PA., Dec. 19, 1873.

The official vote of Venango county is four thousand seven hundred and sixteen for the Constitution, and one hundred and eighty-nine against. The majority excels the entire vote cast at the last general election. I claim Venango as the banner county in this work of reform.

Yours truly, S. C. T. DODD.

A NEW CATTLE DISEASE.

The Pall Mall Gazette says that a cattle disease of so disagreeable a nature that it causes the animals affected by it to commit suicide has broken out on the Asiatic shore of the Bosphorus, and has been officially reported at Constantinople. It is characterized by frothing at the mouth, running from the eyes and nose, a total loss of appetite, great heat, and a thirst so insupportable that some of the beasts attacked by the illness cast themselves headlong into adjacent rivers and streams and are drowned. The disease, it is stated, has been in existence for upward of a month in several villages between Belcos on the upper Bosphorus, and Scutari. It attacks bullocks and cows exclusively, and is believed to have been introduced from Ada-baza, beyong Ismidt. At Boskana, four hours distant from Belcos, the disease is increasing, and three or four beasts die every day. At Museinli, and hour's distance inland from Boskana, it has killed about 80 animals, half of the stock of cattle which the village possessed. At other places it is reputed to be on the increase. At Koutchoulii 60 head of cattle have perished, and at the village of Sultan Tchiftik, three hours' distance from Scutari, five or six animals die daily. It is curious to observe that although the medical management of domestic animals was studied by the ancient Egyptians, as well as by the Greeks and Romans, the progress of veterinary science has been so slow that little or nothing is yet known of the nature or treatment of cattle diseases, which if not curable, are no doubt preventable by proper arrangement.

A SLIGHT MISTAKE.

The Cincinnati correspondent of the Cleveland Leader tells this story about the adventures of a stranger in the Constitutional Convention of Ohio:

A spruce, trim fellow came into the Convention on Tuesday, before it began business. He seemed kind of restless, like a cat in strange garret, and hung around the Clerk's desk in a timid manner, waiting for some one to ask him what he wanted, but no one asked him, and he finally mustered up courage to inquire of one of the Secretaries for the Chief Clerk, and Rhodes was pointed out to him, and the shadows of suspense left his anxious face as he approached the solemn Secretary and said:

"I believe you are the clerk; well, I want to join this Convention."

Dud looked at him inquiringly, and said,

"Want to do what?"

"I want to join this Convention."

A look of pity and commiseration came over Dud's thoughtful face; as doubts of the fellow's sanity began to dawn upon him, and he said:

"Why, my dear sir, I don't understand you."

"Why, I am from Indianapolis [and he grew four inches taller]; I am acquainted with Gen. Sol. Meredith and Gov. Hendricks [he straightened about four inches more]; and I want to join this Convention! This is the Short-horned Convention, ain't it?"

A Short-Horned Cattle Convention met at Mozart Hall the same day, and the delegate from Indianapolis had got things mixed.

THE GREAT CONVICT'S HOPE.

The legality of the sentence pronounced against Wm. M. Tweed by Judge Noah Davis is, according to rumor, to be a subject of judicial investigation this week. Tweed's counsel have discovered what they regard as fatal errors in the legislation relating to Blackwell's Island, and there is a prospect that the Boss will be in the Over and Terminer again within a few days by virtue of a writ of habeas corpus, which will raise the question whether the island penitentiary is a county jail, or is any institution to which a man may be legally committed after conviction of a misdemeanor. If all the points made in Tweed's behalf are sustained, there is nothing to prevent the discharge of all his fellow prisoners except the slow working of legal machinery. But the language of the judgement pronounced against Tweed is peculiar, and it is within the range of possibilities that within a few days he may be a free man, owing to careless and bungling legislation. In the office of the District Attorney the subject has been carefully investigated. Assistant Russell, in conversation with a member of the bar on Friday last, evidently referring to this subject, said jocularly: "I could give you a point which would make your fame and fortune. If I were on the other side of the bar I would get out a thousand writs within a week." The delay in the fixing of the bill of exceptions in the Tweed case is partly attributable to this new question, the determination of which will be reached in a few days.—[N. Y. Sun.

A FRIEND IN NEED.

"Confidence," says the proverb, "is a plant of slow growth." It is, perhaps best not to grow it at all in the Australian bush, judging from the following incident related by a Melbourne paper. A certain person was traveling through a lonely district when he heard a great outcry. Thinking bush-rangers were at work, he fires off a pistol to intimidate them; and presently the noise ceased and a scampering was heard. On coming to the open ground the traveler discovered a man tied to a tree. "Oh! sir," cried the victim, "I am so glad you are come. I have been attacked by ruffians, and they were robbing me when they heard your pistol." "And couldn't you get loose, my friend?" asked the traveler. "No; they tied me so very tightly." "And did they rob you of anything?" "No; only of my watch. They had not time to search for my money, which I placed in my left boot." "How fortunate! observed the traveler; was the sum considerable?" "Over a thousand, thank heaven, said the poor man." "Are you sure they are gone?" asked the other. "Oh! certain." The newcomer looked round and round, and, seeing the coast clear, said cooly, "Well, as they're gone, I think I'll finish the job myself." And he proceeded to rob the unfortunate victim.

MARK TWAIN ON WOMAN.

Mark Twain at a public dinner in London recently responded to the toast, "The ladies," and in the course of his remarks said: "Ah, you remember, you remember well, what a throb of pain, what a great tidal wave of grief swept over us all when when Joan of Arc fell at Waterloo, [Laughter.] Who does not sorrow for the loss of Sappho, the sweet singer of Israel? [Laughter.] Who among us does not miss the gentle ministrations, the softening influences, the humble piety of Lucrezia Borgia? [Laughter.] Who can join in the heartless libel that woman is extravagant in dress when we can look back and call to mind our simple and lowly Mother Eve arrayed in her modification of the Highland costume?"—[Cin. Commercial.

TELEGRAMS IN BRIEF.

The outstanding legal tenders yesterday were $376,234,362.

All the departments in Washington will be closed at noon each day during the holiday week.

The evidence for the prosecution closed in the case of ex-Mayor Hall, of New York, yesterday, and the court adjourned till to-day.

The London Daily News reports that the hostile tone of the recent pastorals issued by the French bishops has caused the German government to renew its complaints to France.

Woodruff & Morrison, of South Brooklyn, whose books were seized some time ago on the charge that they had defrauded the government, have offered to pay $55,000 as a penalty.

The President stated emphatically yesterday that the nomination of Attorney-General Williams for chief justice would not be withdrawn, and that he had never contemplated such a thing.

On the application of the State Treasurer of Arkansas, the chancellor of Pulaski county, yesterday, placed the Fort Smith railroad in the hands of a receiver, Col. L. B. Beaumont, pending the contest for the possession of the road between the boards of directors elected a few days ago.

THE VIRGINIUS.

OPINION OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

WASHINGTON, December 22.—The following is the opinion of Attorney General Williams in the Virginius case.

"Department of Justice, Washington, December 17th:

Hon. Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State, Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst., submitting to me a large number of documents and depositions, and asking for my opinion as to whether or not the Virginius, at the time of her capture by the Spanish man-of-war Tornado, was entitled to carry the flag of the United States, and whether or not she was carrying it improperly or without the right at that time.

These questions arise under the protocol of the 29th ult., between the Spanish Minister and Secretary of State, in which among other things, it is agreed that on the 25th inst Spain shall salute the flag of the United States, but it is further provided that if Spain should prove to the satisfaction of the United States that the Virginius was not entitled to carrying the flag of the United States, and was carrying it at the time of her capture without right and improperly, the salute will be spontaneously dispensed with, as in such case not being necessarily requirable, but the United States will expect in such a case a disclaimer of an interest of indignity to its flag in the act which was committed.

A section of the act of December 31, 1792, provides that ships or vessels registered pursuant to such act and no other except such as shall be duly qualified according to law for carrying on the coasting trade and denominated or deemed ships and vessels of the United States shall be entitled to the benefits and privileges appertaining to such ships.

Section 4 of the same act provides for an oath by which, among other things, to obtain the registry of a vessel the owner is required to swear that there is not a subject or citizen of any foreign prince or State, directly or indirectly by way of trust, confidence or otherwise interested in such a ship or vessel, or in the profits or issues thereof obviously. Therefore, no vessel, in which a foreigner is directly or indirectly interested, is entitled to a United States registry, and if one is obtained by a false oath as to that point, and the fact that the vessel is owned or partly owned by foreigners, she cannot be deemed a vessel of the United States, or entitled to the benefits or privileges appertaining to such vessels.

HISTORY OF THE VESSEL.

The Virginius was registered in New York on the 26th of September, 1870, in the name of Patterson, who made oath as required by law, but the depositions submitted abundantly show that in fact Patterson was not the owner at that time, but that the vessel was the property of certain Cuban citizens in New York, who furnished the necessary funds for her purchase. J. E. Shepherd, who commanded said vessel when she left New York, with a certificate of her register in the name of Patterson testified positively that he entered into an agreement to command said vessel at an interview between Quesada, Moro, Patterson and others, at which it was distinctly understood that the Virginius belonged to Quesada, Moro and other Cubans, and that the said Moro exhibited to him receipts for the purchase money and for repairs and supplies upon said steamer, and explained to him how said funds were raised among the Cubans in New York.

Adolpho de Varona, who was secretary of the Cuban mission in New York at the time the Virginius was purchased, and afterwards sailed in her as Quesada's chief of staff, testifies that he was acquainted with all the details of the transactions, and knows that the Virginius was purchased with the funds of Cubans, and with the understanding and arrangement that Patterson should appear as the nominal owner, because foreigners could not obtain a United States register for the vessel. Francis Bowen, Charles Smith, Edward Greenwood, John McCann, Matt. Murphy, Ambrose Rawlings, Thomas Gallagher, John Furlong, Thomas Anderson, and George W. Miller, who were employed upon the Virginius in various capacities after she was registered in the name of Patterson, testify clearly to the effect that they were informed and understood while they were upon the vessel that she belonged to Quesada and Cubans represented by him, and that he navigated, controlled, and treated such vessel in all respects as though it was his property. Nothing appears to weaken the force of this testimony, though witnesses were generally subjected to cross-examination, but on the contrary, all circumstances of the case tend to its corroboration.

With the oath for registry, the salute requires a bond to be given, signed by the owner, captain and one or more sureties, but there were no sureties upon the bond given by Patterson and Shepherd. Pains have been taken to ascertain if there was any insurance upon the vessel, but nothing of the kind has been found, and Quesada, Varona and other Cubans, who took passage upon the Virginius instead of going on board at the wharf in the usual way went aboard off a tug after the vessel had left the harbor of New York. I cannot do otherwise than to hold upon this evidence that Patterson's oath was false, and that the register obtained in his name was a

FRAUD UPON THE NAVIGATION LAWS

of the United States. Assuming the question to be what appears to conform to the intent of the protocol, whether or not the Virginius at the time of her capture had a right as against the United States to carry the American flag.

NO RIGHT TO CARRY THE AMERICAN FLAG.

I am of the opinion that she had no such right, because she had not been registered according to law, but I am also of the opinion that she was as much exempt from interference on high seas by another power on that ground as though she had been lawfully registered. Spain, no doubt, has a right to capture a vessel with an American register and carrying the American flag found in her own water, assisting or endeavoring to assist the insurrection in Cuba, but she has no right to capture such a vessel on the high seas upon an apprehension that, in violation of the neutrality or navigation laws of the United States. She was on her way to assist said rebellion. Spain may defend her territory and people from hostile attack of what is or appears to be an American vessel, but she has no jurisdiction whatever over the question as to whether or not such vessel is on the high seas in violation of any law of the United States. Spain cannot rightfully raise that question as to the Virginius but the United States may, and as I understood the protocol they have agreed to do it, and governed by that agreement and without admitting that Spain would otherwise have any interest in the question, I decide that the Virginius, at the time of her capture was without right and improperly carrying the American flag.

Very respectfully,
[Signed] GEO. H. WILLIAMS,
Attorney General.

OBITUARY.

BOSTON, December 23.—The wife of Alex. Agassiz, son of the late Prof. Agassiz, died last night of pneumonia, superinduced by fatigue in attendance upon her father-in-law.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 23.—Chas. F. Simmons, a well-known telegrapher of New York, and for many years connected with the fire alarm telegraph of this city, died last night of heart disease.

THE MARINE DISASTER.

A SECOND LETTER FROM A PASSENGER ON THE ILL-FATED STEAMER—CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT.

NEW YORK, December 23.—The Tribune to-morrow will publish a second letter from Rudolph A. Witthouse, Jr., who was a passenger on the ill-fated Ville du Havre, to his father in this city. He writes as follows: In my last I gave you a sketch of my experience in connection with the sinking of the Ville du Havre. I will now give you my opinion concerning the cause of the accident, &c. From all that I can gather from the officers and men, I conclude that the blame rests entirely with the officer on watch on the steamer, whose duty it was to get out of the Loch Earn's way, and it appears that, instead of doing this, he did the very opposite, altering the course of the steamer so as to run right across the bows of the Loch Earn, at least so says the officer who was on watch on the latter boat at the time of the collision. In any case, it is an acknowledged rule of the sea that a steamer is bound to get out of the way of a sailing craft, and as the night was magnificently clear and calm, the accident can only have occurred through some inexcusable blunder of those in charge of the steamer.

CONDUCT OF THE CREW.

After the accident, if it can be so called, had occurred and while the ship was sinking, the officers and crew behaved in a most cowardly manner. The latter I know, and the former I believe, looking out for themselves, and leaving the women and children to look out for themselves. The only exception I saw being the Doctor, Mr. Audourt, whom I saw three or four minutes before the ship went down going below. I told him he would not have time to get up again, to which he answered that he must look after those who were crushed in their state rooms. He never came up again. A significant fact, and one needing no comment, is that

NOT A SINGLE PASSENGER

was taken from the sinking ship by boats, all being picked up in the water, while at least twenty of the officers and crew reached the Loch Earn without as much as wetting the soles of their shoes.

Of Captain Surmont's conduct I know nothing. Those who saw him spoke well of him and I do not think that he is directly to blame for the collision, although he is to blame for not having his crew under better discipline and for not having his boats in a condition to be promptly lowered. In great contrast with the demoralized condition of the crew was the coolness of the passengers, even the women and children. There were no screams or running about without an object. The women were in knots praying quietly, while the men were looking around for life buoys or pieces of wood, or were making efforts to get one of the boats which the crew had abandoned clear of the ship, so that it might float when the vessel sank.

LANGUAGE FAILS

me in expressing my admiration of, and gratitude to the gallantry and generosity of the officers and crew of the Loch Earn and of the Trimountain. The former saved a greater part of us from the water, and both gave us clothing and did all in their power to make us as comfortable as possible under the circumstances. The French crew, on the contrary, were a mob of brutes and cowards.

THE VIRGINIUS.

HOW THE SPANIARDS TREATED THE AMERICAN FLAG.

NEW YORK, December 23.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Key West contains the following: The Virginius prisoners surrendered at Santiago say that when the officers from the Tornado boarded the Virginius one of them, in hauling down the flag of the United States, tore it into ribbons and trampled on it, asserting, with an oath, that this is what we have wanted. The situation in Santiago de Cuba is reported very serious. Only one week ago twenty-five citizens were arrested, and after a mock trial, without any evidence being adduced against them, they were told to go home. On their way they were cruelly waylaid and killed, only one escaping. He was riddled with bullets. The Americans are continually afraid of their lives, and bitterly complain that nothing has been done to redress their wrongs. It is not safe for an American officer to go ashore alone. At Santiago, and all along the river line, the Spaniards are erecting new batteries.

ZANESVILLE.

NO VERDICT—DEATH OF A PROMINENT CITIZEN.

Special Dispatch to THE POST.]

ZANESVILLE, OHIO, Dec. 23, 1873.

The jury in the case of the State of Ohio vs. John Wolford, indicted for murder in the first degree, after being out 48 hours failed to agree upon a verdict—standing six to six.

Dr. George W. Blocksom, one of the most prominent citizens of this city, a wholesale druggist and a leading Democratic politician, died last evening from tetanus, the result of an accident from a fall off a wagon some weeks since.

PHILADELPHIA.

THE STRIKING 'LONGSHOREMEN.

PHILADELPHIA, December 23.—The striking 'longshoremen here have organized an association. One resolution declares white and colored men may become members.

About two hundred strikers marched along the docks to-day endeavoring to induce the men working to join them. Some men who worked yesterday at reduced rates have not resumed to-day, being intimidated by violence offered by their companions last night.

MISSOURI.

BODIES TRANSFERRED.

ST. LOUIS, December 23.—The bodies of seventy-eight Federal soldiers, who were killed during the late war, at Centralia, Mo., by Bill Anderson's guerillas, were taken to Jefferson City yesterday and interred in the National cemetery under charge of Major Iron, of the United States Quartermaster's department.

A fire at Clinton, Missouri, last night consumed half of the western side of a square. Loss about $50,000.

SAN FRANCISCO.

ELECTION OF JUDGE HAGER.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 23.—Judge Hager, of this city, Anti-Railroad candidate for the United States Senate for the short term, was elected to-day at Sacramento on the second ballot.

The colored delegation in Washington now, composed of George F. Downing, Frederick Douglass, and others, had an interview, yesterday, by appointment, with Representative A. H. Stephens, of Georgia. Stephens admitted that the colored men, as citizens, were entitled to full protection in their civil rights, without any invidious proscription, but that it was the duty of representative States, and not of the Federal Government, to act in order to secure them.

UPSHOT OF THE WATER BOND EMBEZZLEMENT.

PITTSBURGH PURGING HERSELF OF HER IMPURITIES.

The last act in the water bond drama was played in City Councils Monday afternoon. Whether the epilogue will be hereafter produced is still among the possibilities. The City fathers met in joint session yesterday afternoon to receive the report of the Finance Committee on their dissection of the water embezzlement. There was not by any means a full attendance of members, and the lobby was not so crowded as we have frequently seen it during the last two weeks, but there was a larger throng gathered in the rotunda, reception room and passage ways of that "mausoleum of folly and extravagance," City Hall, than we have ever witnessed there. The greatest interest was manifested in the proceedings throughout, more especially during the tilt between Councilmen Laufman and McCarthy, and also during the reading of the Finance Committee's report.

As to the report itself, we have scarcely had opportunity of digesting it fully. It appears, though, somewhat superficial, as was the case at frequent periods during the progress of the investigation, when witnesses were allowed to escape from their corners. In the short time devoted to probing this great municipal malfeasance, the Finance Committee had not sufficiently ample opportunity of touching the bottom. Certainly the testimony elicited will not show that fact to the public. It must be confessed, however, that those members who did attend, perhaps one-third of the whole committee, have been indefatigable in the interest they have evinced, and deserve the credit of having, in response to public opinion, made as searching an investigation as was possible in the limited time allotted that most important matter.

One good result of their discoveries has been to exsect from the municipal body politic, a cancer which threatened within the past three weeks to breed a social tumult, whose magnitude can scarcely be estimated. Another has been to revive and concentrate public scrutiny in our civic affairs, to an extent not dreamed of by the most ardent politicians.

Still another has been to place many of our public officials in their true light before their constituents, and force them to acknowledge, though sorely against their will, that they were servants, not masters. These results (and there are yet others, obvious ones, too,) added to the advantages which will accrue in the immediate future, will, we cannot doubt, place our municipal affairs on a solid footing; put good men in office; break up the various rings that now control City Hall; in fine, tend to the reduction of taxation, and redeem the credit of our great iron city. For all of which we shall ever pray, &c.

JOINT SESSION OF COUNCILS.

The two branches of City Councils met in their respective chambers yesterday afternoon at two o'clock, and after observing the necessary forms, which occupied fifteen or twenty minutes more, convened in joint session in the hall of Select Council, President Gross and Negley in the chair. When all had been seated, Col. Phillips, chairman of the Finance Committee, arose and presented the report of that body, which was read by City Clerk Morrow as follows:

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

To the Select and Common Council of the City of Pittsburgh.

GENTLEMEN: Your Finance Committee, to which was referred the investigation of the disposition of certain water bonds and deposits of certain moneys of the city with the Nation Trust Company, would respectfully report:

THE INVESTIGATOIN.

That in pursuance of the resolution of Councils of November 24th, ult., in relation thereto, we entered upon our duties the following day, and by continued daily sessions until this day, prosecuted the investigation of alleged irregularities, in the course of which we called and had examined before us a large number of witnesses, including the Controller, Water Commissioners and their Secretaries, the Directors, officers and clerks of the Nation Trust Company, excepting R. J. Grier, cashier, who could not be found; and all other persons having any knowledge or connection with this investigation so far as we could learn—and herewith submit the testimony, which is made a part of this report. [This testimony we have given in full from day to day. REP.]

In this investigation we learned, among other things, the following facts:

JOHN ROSS, THE EMBEZZLER.

That John Ross, Secretary of the Water Commission, without authority, opened an account with the Nation Trust Company, in his own name, as Secretary, on the 5th of May, 1873, and from that time till November 11th, 1873, had deposited without the knowledge or consent of the Water Commission, so far as the evidence discloses, some $323,156 06, out of which he had drawn the sum of $94,000, leaving a balance therein of some $220,156 66; and also the said John Ross had opened an account in his own name at the Central Bank, where, so far as the evidence shows, without the knowledge or consent of the Water Commissioners, he deposited the accrued interest of the Water Commission bonds sold by him; also the proceeds of certain bonds sold by Geo. B. Hill & Co.; and we further find that said John Ross, Secretary, did, without the knowledge or consent of the Water Commission, so far as the evidence shows, receive from the Controller of the city some $2,500,000, Water Bond Loan of 1873, of which $10,000 were returned, and some $50,000 00 of the Thirty-street Street Improvement Bonds from the Commission for the improvement of that street, which bonds, he did, without the knowledge or consent of the said Commission, (so far as the evidence shows) place in the custody of the Nation Trust Company, for the purpose of enabling them to use the same as collaterals in the negotiating of loans in Philadelphia for the use and benefit of said Trust Company. On account of the Thirty-third street bonds, $13,000 have been accounted for to the City Treasury.

All of which transactions were contrary to the laws and ordinances of the city, of all which he, from his position, could not plead ignorance.

During the investigation, at the instance of your committee, the city attorney had the said secretary arrested on information made for embezzlement, &c., and now held for trial before the proper tribunal of the county.

THE WATER COMMISSIONERS DERELICT OF DUTY.

That the Board of Water Commissioners having the sole control and power in the negotiation and sale of the water extension loan bonds of the issue of 1873, in dereliction of duty, authorized and negligently suffered and permitted the said John Ross, their said Secretary, to obtain from the Controller of the city said water extension loan bonds, and for which the said Commissioners, or a majority of them, afterwards gave their receipts for said bonds to John Ross and by him delivered to the Controller.

And we further find that the said Water Commissioners have never themselves examined the books or the bond books of the said Water Commission, nor the books of the City Treasurer or Controller, in relation to the issuing and sale of said bonds, nor have they required from their said Secretary any report or statement of his transactions in the sale or disposition of bonds and other doings. Neither did they ever require or demand from the City Treasurer or City Controller statements in relation to the sale of water bonds and the proceeds thereof.

And we further find that said Water Commission have never complied with the ordinances of the city requiring them to report all sales of bonds to the City Controller within ten days after sale; nor have they ever furnished to the City Councils a quarterly report of the business of the Water Commission, as they were required to do. Whilst the committee recognizes the fact that important services have been rendered by the members of the Water Commission, without compensation, and have obtained no evidence whatever of any complicity in the fraudulent transactions under investigation, yet the committee find that the Water Commissioners have been inexcusably negligent and derelict of duty in the management of the Financial Department of the Commission; and we would, therefore, recommend that the Commission be forthwith abolished and the duties, for the time being, be placed in the hands of some one of the Committees of Councils, until such time as Councils may by proper ordinance decree otherwise.

THE CONTROLLER INEXCUSABLY NEGLIGENT.

And we also find and report that the Controller has been likewise inexcusably negligent and derelict in duty, in permitting and suffering Water Bonds to be received and taken from his office without first having demanded and received the proper vouchers therefor, as required by law. That the Controller without proper authority of law, but merely upon the estimate of the Civil Engineer did issue and countersign a warrant upon the City Treasury for about $50,000, without a certificate from the Water Commission, and although this neglect of duty on the part of a city official constitutes an offence so grave that it cannot be tolerated or excused it is nevertheless due to the Controller, (knowing the man as we do,) to say that there was nothing developed during the investigation thus far, to warrant any suspicion of any intended dishonesty on his party; and, in connection with this report, we herewith hand the resignation of the Controller, and asking that it be accepted.

THE AWARD.

As to the cash deposit account with the Nation Trust Company, in pursuance of the resolution of Councils passed December 8, 1873, accepting the proposition submitted by the stockholders of said company, said claim was submitted to the arbitrators therein named, who met, and having heard the proofs and allegations of the parties did, on the 19th day of December, A. D. 1873, find the award in favor of the city of Pittsburgh the sum of $238,904 02, being the amount deposited by John Ross with the Nation Trust Company as aforesaid, with accrued interest thereon to date of award; said award to bear interest until paid—the amount of the bonds hypothecated by the Nation Trust Company and belonging to the city of Pittsburgh being admitted, and the liability of said Trust Company assumed in the article of submission to arbitration; the amounts being as hereinbefore stated.

RECOMMENDATIONS IN REGARD TO THE NEW WATER WORKS.

In conclusion we would respectfully recommend the appointment of a committee to devise a plan for the supervision and control of the construction of the water works and submit to Councils the necessary ordinance for that purpose. We would also recommend that hereafter all Water Bonds be issued and sold by the City Controller under the direction and supervision of the Finance Committee, and that no bonds be issued until the City Treasurer has officially reported to the Controller that the purchase money therefor has been paid into the City Treasurer, and deposited in the city depositories; and that a sub-committee of three members of the Finance committee be appointed quarterly whose duty it shall be to audit and report to Councils, the conditions of the Bond accounts of the city; and that no bonds be delivered until the same has been registered by the Bond Clerk.

We would respectfully suggest that an ordinance be prepared and passed, to carry out the foregoing suggestions.

And we also recommend the adoption of the following resolution.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Resolved That a committee of five be appointed by Councils, for the purpose of preparing an ordinance repealing the Water Commission ordinance, or such part thereof as in their judgment may be deemed best, and to provide for the organization of a system or department for carrying on the work and the completion of the new Water Works.

W. PHILLIPS,	W. B. NEGLEY.
E. P. JONES,	DAVID AIKEN, JR.
J. H. JONES,	G. FOLLANSBEE,
JAS. LITTLE,	A. C. HAYS,
R. H. SMITH,	C. B. SEELY,
EDWARD HOUSE,	J. R. MCCUNE,
JOHN FLEMING,	C. S. FETTERMAN,
A. H. GROSS,	Finance Committee

The report of the Finance Committee was, on motion of Col. Phillips, received and filed.

RESIGNATION OF THE WATER COMMISSIONERS.

Mr. Burgwin—I have been selected, certainly not by any request or desire of mine, by the members of the Water Commission to say a word, not in their behalf, because I do not propose to say a word in their behalf, but to present, as I now do, the resignation by this Board of the office which has been entrusted to them. I do not at present propose to make any remarks accompanying that resignation, but simply to say that it is to a certain extent in response to the report of the Finance Committee which has just been read. The Commission did not know, except in most general terms, what that report would contain. We simply understood that it would recommend the abolishing of the office of Water Commissioners, or rather the repeal of the law establishing the Water Commission, because under the ordinance and the law, the parties holding the office cannot be removed except by certain proceedings being held. In order to remove all obstacles in the way of Councils the Board of Water Commissioners have requested me to present their resignations, so that they shall be out of the way of the passage of this ordinance. We have not had time to prepare anything more than our resignation, and inasmuch as a great deal has been said both publicly and privately in regard to the course of the Water Commissioners and of their proceedings as to their sins of commission and omission, and your board have not had the charges made so they could answer them, and inasmuch as they have never been heard in their own behalf, and inasmuch as we have presented our resignation, we ask that, as a matter of justice, we may be permitted, at the proper time (of course we cannot present it to-day), to accompany our resignation with such explanatory remarks as will put us in the proper light before Councils and the community, and with this request we present our resignation.

Mr. Phillips—I move that the request be granted. I think that the request is nothing more than just.

Mr. McCarthy—I wish to ask if a joint session can receive such a report as that presented?

The Chairman—It can.

THE BALL BEGINS.

Mr. McCarthy then offered a resolution removing the Water Commissioners and remarked: If that motion is seconded, I will say a very few words.

The motion being seconded by Mr. Rafferty, Mr. McCarthy continued: We find five gentlemen of most respectable character, elected to fill a most responsible position, who lifted up their hands before Almighty God, and swore that they would perform their duty, and yet these same gentlemen lifted up their hands two weeks ago and just as solemnly swore they had not done their duty, and they expect to come in here and atone for the matter by offering their resignation.

I object to any such proceeding. I tell you, Mr. Chairman, the people demand of Councils a higher measure of responsibility on the part of its officers. If you accept the resignation of he officers when they neglect their duty all they have to do is to come in and tender their resignation. [Here there was a tumult of applause and the greatest confusion in the council chamber.]

The President—I hope there will not be any such demonstration as this.

Mr. McCarthy—I say, sir, we should go after every officer and every agent of the city that has been guilty of sins of omission or commission, and apply the surgeon's knife to the roots and punish them as far as lays in the power of the city authorities. The law does not punish any further than removing them from office, and I am in favor of removing them.

Mr. Adams—I move to lay the resolution on the table.

MR. LAUFMAN GIVES A LITTLE PEEP BEHIND THE SCENES, AND CREATES A SENSATION—SWEARING ON A STACK OF BIBLES.

Mr. Laufman—I wish to state, Mr. Chairman, that the Water Commission have their books posted up as far as they have gone, and there is $1 08 between them and the Treasurer's account, and I do not wish any man to come into Councils and pave his way to political preferment by making assertions of such a character as have just been made. I know the men who compose the Water Commission are as far above him as the sun is above the earth. That same gentleman came to me and wished to get Burgwin put out and get in himself, as he wished to pave the way to the mayoralty. Yet I have never said a word to any man about it until this day; but that is the man who has come in here, and he talked to Jack Stewart, and he wished to pave his way to the mayoralty, and I am willing to swear that on a stack of Bibles as high as this house. I have kept these things in my own breast, but I am determined that no man shall put me down. I have tried to do my duty, but they have come in and tried to blacken my character, which is more than I will try to do.

A STORMY SCENE.

Mr. McCarthy—Mr. Chairman, I have a word to say.

The President—This discussion is out of order.

Mr. Littell—Let us go according to the rules.

Mr. McCarthy—You permit that gentleman to make false statements and I have a right to be heard in my defense. I must not be put down in that way. I insist upon proof.

Mr. Littell—If you cannot keep order, Mr. Chairman, I call upon the Sergeant-at-Arms to do so.

Mr. Kirk—I think you are making more noise than any other man.

Mr. Riddell—I move, for the purpose of allowing Mr. McCarthy to be heard, for we want to treat all parties alike here, that the rules be suspended.

The President—The gentleman is also out of order. Gentlemen will come to order.

At this point the confusion became so great that it was impossible to distinguish the remarks of the different gentlemen on the floor. Some half a dozen members were on their feet, each trying to speak at the same time, while the raps of the chairman's gavel were loud and rapid. At length order was restored.

Mr. McCarthy (with vehemence)—Am I to be put down here in the face of the charges that have been made and not be heard in my own defense?

The President—The rule of councils is that only only one party can be heard on a question of this kind. The motion of the gentleman is to lay on the table.

Mr. Riddell—The chairman is correct, but this a case in which charges are made of a character that the gentleman should have an opportunity to reply if he can; my mention is to suspend the rules to give him a hearing. Here men are asked to resign.

The President—We are not considering the resignation. The motion is to lay on the table.

A call was then made for the yeas and nays, but it was not seconded by the requisite number, and the motion to lay on the table was carried with a few dissenting votes.

The resignation of the Water Commissioners was then unanimously accepted.

MR. M'CARTHY EPPLAINS.

After some further opposition, Mr. McCarthy was allowed permission to explain, which he did as follows: The facts in reference to the statement of the gentlemen are these: I am a candidate for the Mayoralty. It was suggested to me that the water Commission would use their entire influence against me, and if I could get elected on the Board of Water Commissions, I could prevent that influence be used against me. I told this to Mr. Laufman. A few days after that I again saw Mr. Laufman and told him that I had reconsidered the matter, and that I did not wish anything to do with it.

Mr. Laufman—That is not so, Mr. McCarthy. You told me no such thing—you told me the apple was not ripe.

Mr. McCarthy asserted positively that his statement of the matter was correct.

THE FINALE.

Further discussion on this point was here interrupted by a motion to accept the award of the arbitrators, which prevailed.

The resignation of the Controller and the report of the Finance Committee as a whole were then accepted, and the joint session adjourned.

SEPARATE SESSION.

Subsequently each Branch reconvened in separate session, and ratified the action of the joint session.

FURTHER INVESTIGATION REFUSED.

In Select Branch Mr. McCarthy obtained leave to offer a series of resolutions which call for a committee of five, two from Select Branch and three from Common Branch, to investigate city affairs up to February 1, 1874, and for that purpose be authorized to employ as counsel Messrs. Geo. P. Hamilton, S. A. Purviance and M. Swartzwelder, to assist the Committee. These were tabled.

ELECTION FOR CONTROLLER SET FOR WEDNESDAY.

Mr. Phillips moved that we go into an election for Controller, but he wanted it understood that the Finance Committee, as a committee, was not pressing an election. They had consulted several parties, among them Messrs. W. D. Campbell, J. D. Bailey and H. Lambert, but some of them declined to serve.

After a rambling debate, a vote was taken on Mr. McKee's resolution to postpone the election of Controller till next Wednesday at two o'clock. Carried.

Several voices—Move we adjourn.

Mr. Kirk then offered a resolution that the Mayor be authorized to offer a reward of $5,000 for the arrest and conviction of Robt. J. Grier.

Several voices—Oh that will never do.

Mr. Rafferty—I think we had better offer $5,000 reward to somebody to keep Ross from running away, or increase his bail to that amount.

A voice—What has the city to do with Grier?

Mr. Kirk—I think this resolution would suit everybody.

The chair (sotto voce)—Except the taxpayers.

Select Council then adjourned.

$370 FOR THE WOODEN PAVEMENT JAUNT.

In Common Council the action of Joint Session was ratified. A number of ordinances for street improvements, heretofore published as having been recommended by the Street Committee were acted on. The report of the Wooden Pavement Committee was ordered to be printed, and a resolution donating $370 to that Committee for their jaunt (it is whispered on free passes) to eastern cities, was passed. The resolutions relieving street railways from keeping the streets over which they pass, clean and in repair, and substituting a lien thereof—a tax per car was referred to the Street Committee.

The resolution from Select, for the appointment of a special committee to investigate the financial affairs of the city, was concurred in, and Messrs. Fulton, Follansbee and Finley appointed on part of Common Council.

Adjourned till Wednesday afternoon.

THE COURTS.

MONDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Court of Quarter Sessions—Judge Sterrett.

Lruna Roffman was found guilty of assault and battery, her husband, Frank being the prosecutor.

In a cross suit for the same offense, a verdict of not guilty was rendered. Frank was however directed to pay the costs.

August Breckley was found guilty of larceny on oath of Milo P. Scott, and recommended to the mercy of the court.

Daniel Brown was found guilty of larceny on oath of Thomas R. Chester, and the court sentenced the accused to the Workhouse for six months.

Adam Schaffer was convicted of a charge of larceny, founded on the oath of George Muller. The court sentenced the accused to the Workhouse for one year.

Theresa Weisenberger plead guilty to the larceny of a ring, on oath of Kate Winters.

Johnny Kuntz, a boy somewhat larger than a pound of soap, was on trial at the adjournment of court, on a charge of assault and battery.

Court of Common Pleas—Judges Stowe and Collier.

The case of the Pittsburgh, Virginia, and Charleston Railroad Company vs. George W. Cass, and the case of Bourne vs. the Roman Catholic Orphans Asylum, previously reported, are still on trial.

District Court—Judges Ewing and White.

The case of J. Sharp McDonald vs. J. C. Kister & Co, previously reported, was submitted to the jury.

The case of Huckenstein vs. Lamon is still on trial.

TUESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Court of Quarter Sessions—Judge Sterrett.

John Kunz, the little boy charged with assault and battery, was found not guilty and the prosecutor, George Schuellegan ordered to pay the costs.

Thos. McGeehan, who plead guilty to a charge of embezzlement by factor was sentenced to jail for ten days.

Patrick O'Neill was acquitted of a charge of larceny.

J. P. Morris, indicted for aggravated assault and battery and may hem, on Patrick Mulkens, night watchman on the Birmingham bridge, was found guilty. of assault and battery.

The next case tried was that of Ferdinand Bloomer, charged by Patrick McNally with assault and battery. He was found guilty.

Samuel Murphy was acquitted of a charge of larceny.

The case of Jos. Rodgers charged with assault and battery is on trial.

Court of Common Pleas—Judges Stowe and Collier.

In the case of the P. V. & C. R. R. vs. Gen. George W. Cass. An action to recover a subscription to said railrord. A verdict for plaintiff was rendered for $25,300.

The defense was that the subscription was a conditional one.

The jury were out on the case of Bourne vs. the Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum, previously reported.

The of John Kearney vs. the Pittsburgh and Castle Shannon railroad. An action for work and labor done, is on trial.

District Court—Judges Ewing and White.

The jury were out in the case of J. Sharp McDonald vs. J. C. Risher and R. B. Robinson, owners of the steam tug Dodsworth.

In the case of Huckestine vs. Lamon the jury could not agree as to what constituted stone quarrying, and asked to be discharged. The Judge, however, sent them back. It appears that the plaintiff had leased a stone quarry for a certain time, and before the expiration of his lease, by means of blasting, loosened up an immense quanty of stone which after his lease had expired he continued to haul away from the quarry. Defendant refuses to allow the stone to be taken away, on the ground that loosening them by blasting did not constitute quarrying as contemplated by the terms of the lease.

Judge White's branch of this Court has adjourned until next Monday week.

VACANCIES UNDER THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

WARD POLITICIANS ON THE ANXIOUS BENCH.

Local politicians are much exercised in mind just now over the question whether aspirants for municipal, ward, borough or township offices shall run for office in February, 1874, or in the same month in 1875. Section 3 of article VIII on suffrage and elections reads as follows:

"All elections for city, ward, borough and township officers, for regular terms of service, shall be held on the third Tuesday of February."

Some hold that under this section, as the terms of the Mayors of both this city and Allegheny, as well as a portion of the Councilmen of both cities, expire before the third Tuesday in February, 1875, their successors must be elected prior to that time or a vacancy must occur. This, however, does not necessarily follow.

The new Constitution provides in "schedule," section 26, that "all persons in office in this Commonwealth at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, and at the first election under it, shall hold their respective offices until the term for which they have been elected or appointed shall expire, and until their successors shall be duly qualified, unless otherwise provided in this Constitution."

It is evident that in this section provision is made against vacancies, from the fact that the present incumbents are to hold until their successors are not only elected or appointed, but until they are installed into office. It appears evident that as the Constitution does not provide for any election in 1874, the makers of the instrument did not intend that any election should be held under its provisions prior to 1875. In the meantime, it is evident that to the Legislature was left the duty of getting the machinery into working order, and to provide for any vacancies that unavoidably occur prior to the third Tuesday of 1875.

WEEKLY DEATH RECORD.

PITTSBURGH.

Dr. W. Snively, physician to the Board of Health, reports the total number of deaths in the city during the week ending December 20th, to be 52. The causes of death were as follows:

Accident by drowning, 1; accident by railroad, 2; congestion of brain, 1; bronchitis, capillary, 4; cancer of breast, 2; cerebritis, 1; consumption, 5; convulsions, 4; croup, 1; diptheritis, 3; dysentery, acute, 1; erysipelas, 1; fever, typhoid, 1; fever, scarlet, 5; gastro enteritis, 1; valvular disease, 2; inanition, 2; jaundice, 1; liver, congestion of, 1; malformation, 2; meningitis, acute, 1; premature birth, 2; pneumonitis, 3; peritonitis, 2; ulceration of bowels, 1; whooping cough, 1.

The following is the classification:

Sex—Males, 28; females, 24.

Color—White: males, 27; females, 24. Colored: males, 1; females, 0.

Condition—Males: married, 5; single, 23; widowers, 0. Females: married, 9; single, 14; widows, 1.

Nationality—Males: United States, 22; England, 0; Germany, 3; Ireland, 3. Females: United States, 18; Ireland, 5.

Age—Under 1 year, 19; from 1 to 2 years, 6; from 2 to 5 years, 4; from 5 to 10 years, 2; from 15 to 20 years, 2; from 20 to 30 years, 5; from 30 to 40 years, 3; from 40 to 50 years, 6; from 50 to 60 years, 2; from 60 to 70 years, 1; from 70 to 80 years, 3.

Place of death—City wards, 52.

ALLEGHENY.

The following is the death record of Allegheny City for the past week, as reported by Health Officer Hoch: Total number, 28, all white; males, 17; females, 11. The diseases were:

Pneumonia, 5; bronchitis, capillary, 3; old age, 2; marasmus, 2; abscess, apoplexy, diptheria, whooping cough, bronchitis, killed on railroad, inflammation of brain in consequence of injuries received, scarlatina, croup, chronic diarrhœa, gastric fever, cerebritis, erysipelas, metastasis from mumps, congestion of brain, and inflammation of bowels, each 1.

The ages were: Under 1 year, 17; between 1 and 5, 8; between 5 and 10, 1; between 10 and 20, 1; between 20 and 30, 1; between 60 and 70, 2; between 70 and 80, 2.

NEWS FROM BOB GRIER.

THE RECEIVER OF THE NATION TRUST COMPANY, JOHN H. BAILEY, ESQ., HANDED A COMMUNICATION FROM THE MISSING CASHIER—NATURE OF ITS CONTENTS—HIS WHEREABOUTS STILL A MYSTERY—WHAT THE RECEIVER IS DOING.

A rumor was current late Tuesday afternoon to the effect that John H. Bailey, Esq., recently appointed by Court as Receiver of the Nation Trust Company, had come into possession of a statement from Robert J. Grier, the missing cashier, which set forth facts not generally known known regarling the affairs of that very popular institution. In order to ascertain the truth of the report, our reporter called at the residence of Mr. Bailey last evening. That gentleman received our representative very courteously, and in answer to interrogatories, informed him that he had came into possession of a statement in Grier's hand writing; but that it gave no clue to Bob's hiding place, or the time when it was written.

Its purport was to give information regarding certain accounts that were in a state of confusion on the books of the bank. Beyond this, nothing further can be gleaned. Mr. Bailey says that the statement presents few new features not previously known, and those only refer, as we have said, to the books of the institution.

As to how the Receiver was put in possession of this statement, Mr. B. did not state, nor did our reporter ask him, but the public will naturally infer that it came through the same channel as the package handed 'Squire Taylor for delivery to the bank after Grier's disappearance.

Our reporter further interrogated Mr. Bailey as to when he expected to make his report to Court, touching the condition of the bank and the result of his examination. He informed us that when he took charge of the bank, his first care was to call in the pass books of the small depositors, compare them with the bank accounts, and return them to the anxious inquirers, with an explanatory statement. He added that no more than ordinary routine trouble attended this. He was now engaged in examining the larger accounts, which involved more perplexity, and he did not expect to complete his investigation for over a month yet. As near as he could estimate, he would not be prepared to report to Court before the first of February, because he had determined to make a most exhaustive examination, and to draw up his report in as complete and satisfactory a manner as he found it possible. He added that the confused state of the books and the loose manner in which the accounts were kept, were impeding his labors exceedingly.

THE RIVERMEN IN COUNCIL.

MEETING OF THE COAL EXCHANGE AND STEAMBOATMEN'S ASSOCIATION—THE TRANS-ATLANTIC CANAL PROJECT DISCUSSED—OHIO RIVER NAVIGATION.

The Coal Exchange met Tuesday afternoon, Mr. John F. Dravo in the chair, and after transacting some routine business adjourned. Thereupon the Steamboatmen's Association, to which all the members of the Coal Exchange belong, was convened, with Captain N. J. Bigley in the chair. On calling the meeting to order he stated that some action should be taken in relation to the proposed Trans-Atlantic canal, connecting the Ohio river with the Atlantic ocean, and by the construction of the same a saving of eight to ten million dollars a year could be made to the Eastern consumers of coal, and that the construction of this canal would be of inestimable value

THE CURTAIN DROPS.

CLOSE OF THE INVESTIGATION INTO THE WATER BOND STEAL.

The Finance Committee resumed their investigation Friday afternoon about half past two o'clock. The fact of the matter is that the majority of a bare quorum of the whole Committee were in secret session discussing the line of questioning that should be pursued as to the witnesses expected to be put on the stand subsequently, and debating the policy of accepting the award of the arbitrators. After coming to a partial conclusion in relation to these two points, the Committee filed into Select Council Chamber, and resumed the investigation. What was elicited from the witnesses placed on the stand is given below; what inferences can be drawn will be apparent to the intelligent reader.

THE INVESTIGATION.

The chairman, on calling the Committee to order, read the following communication:

ASKS TO BE INVESTIGATED.

OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER OF NEW WATER WORKS, MUNICIPAL HALL.

PITTSBURGH, PA., December 19, 1837.

To the Chairman and Members of the Finance Committee of Pittsburgh Councils:

GENTLEMEN:—At your meeting held on Saturday, the 13th inst. Mr. Joseph L. Lowry, mechanical engineer of the Board of Water Commissioners made some very grave insinuations, if not direct charges, which reflect very seriously upon me, and I now most respectfully but urgently demand the right to produce before your committee evidence relative to such insinuations or charges, and for that purpose would ask you to call the following persons as witnesses, viz: Jacob F. Slagle, John Megraw, John Douglass, Thomas N. Miller, Andrew Hartupee and Henry F. Grier.

I am very respectfully yours,
W. H. KENNEDY,
Chief Engineer.

The communication was received and filed, but action was postponed. The chairman then directed the examination to proceed, which was begun as follows:

Henry Wheelen sworn—Am a member of the firm of Wheelen & Co.; have paid interest on the bonds of the city for a number of years; some years ago when our sale of bonds became large, there was a disposition to examine into the matter a little; felt that every bond I sold myself should be right so that in the future no reflection could occur upon us; found also that when the interest lists were sent to us they were often incorrect; I represented that matter to the authorities of this city, and the reply was that

EVERY ONE WAS OVERWORKED,

and that it was difficult to ascertain whose duty it was to attend to these things; I then said that the interests involved were so large that I thought some person ought to be selected as particularly responsible for that department and that *when we remitted money, we ought to get the bonds back in a reasonably quick time*, and when the transfer was made it ought to be correctly done, and that the *interest* was

A GRAVE QUESTION;

I urged it in as much as I felt at liberty to do under the circumstances; I talked with A. J. Cochran, C. L. Magee, Thomas Steele and several other gentlemen, and possibly yourself (to Col. Phillips); eighteen months afterwards a change was made and a bond clerk appointed; the system works very well now; our rule has been uniformly to remit the money before asking the city to issue the bonds to us; we always thought that was the proper and correct way, and it has been the uniform rule with us; the matter of hypothecation, as relates to the city's interest, we found like all similar cases; that quite

A SURPRISE

was manifested and more anxiety, but I think the credit of the city is so solid that even with this loss it ought not to be very gravely affected; I hope the city's credit will recover its usual buoyancy; it ought to; all the checks I remitted were drawn to the order of D. W. C. Carroll; have had no demand upon me for interest on bonds in my list except in

ONE CASE,

and this was for a small item, soon after corrected on proper representation; the only outside bonds that have come under my observation are those in contest now; in the commencement of the negotiation of these water bonds I was in this city; Mr. D. W. C. Carroll spoke to me about remitting money for these bonds, and it was decided that the proper way to make the remittance would be to make a check to his order as President; all the money was remitted in that way.

BOB GRIER'S LATEST WILL AND TESTAMENT.

Alderman James A. Taylor, re-called—The gold draft that disappeared on the night of Bob Grier's flight I returned with the papers that I testified to the other day; a man named Boss, who used to be a baker in the Tenth ward, who now lives in East Liberty, was in our bank nearly every day for about two weeks in reference to this draft; think this was a second bill of exchange; one had been sent to Germany, lost, and never accounted for; this was among the papers James Lindsey gave me; when I testified before I stated that I heard from Mr. Armstrong that Mr. Lindsey had

A PACKAGE FOR ME;

I went over to his house and he handed me several notes, and these notes I would like to name; one was made by a gentleman named O'Hearn, who boards at the Monongahela House, and I am told that it is endorsed by James Toomey; think the amount is $5,000; there were two notes there and they were overdue; then I got a note of Wm. McKee, endorsed by James Blackmore, that was overdue and had never been protested; this note was old and ragged; then I got this draft and a memorandum of notes that had been left in our bank for discounting, and were probably discounted; the memorandum contains the name of the makers, the date, the names of the endorsers, and the amounts; Mr. Lindsey told me to say to the officers of the bank that Mr. Grier had declared these were the notes that Smith & Son had taken and placed down town as collateral for a loan; this I gave the bank; they were for money that they had advanced to the bank at

THE TIME OF THE PANIC,

amounting to $20,700; the mem. was in Grier's handwriting; at the time of the panic Mr. Roland H. Smith came over to the bank and proposed to give us a loan; he got the money from the city; cannot tell how he was to get it; when he gave us this assistance he got these notes as collateral security; the memorandum is in the bank; I returned this with the other papers; I asked Mr. Brickell this morning for it, and he said he

DIDN'T WANT TO GIVE IT UP;

understood that Wm. Smith & Son loaned the bank some money and they got these notes for collateral security; at the same time I also got fifty shares of Castle Shannon from Mr. Lindsey; I also got some kind of a memorandum showing that he had some twenty-eight acres of oil land in Butler county; I remember when he bought it; he paid $4, 00 for it; his is Jas. Lindsey, of the firm of Lindsey, McCutcheon & Co.; Mr. Lindsey said I was to have this, but I returned it to the bank, declining to accept the gift; the O'Hearn and Toomey notes amounted to $15,000; the McKee-Blackmore note to $3,000; the gold draft (for 3,000 thalers) we gave it to Mr. Boss, who sent it on to Germany; think the fifty shares of

CASTLE SHANNON STOCK WORTH $1,000;

Lindsey gave me these papers two or three days after Grier's flight; saw Lindsey last on Thanksgiving Day; do not know why these papers were kept out of the bank; the conclusion I came to was that they had been taken away without the knowledge of the President or directors.

SENDING FOR THE MEMORANDUM.

At the conclusion of 'Squire Tayor's testimony the Committee, through the Chairman, authorized him to go to the bank, procure the memorandum spoken of and return it by a messenger to the Committee.

THE BOND CLERK ON THE STAND—REGISTERING BONDS TOO LATE.

Wm. J. Diehl, sworn—Am bond clerk of the City Treasurer's office; entered upon my duties the first day of last May; I register and transfer bonds, also make out the interest list; that is all I have to do with the water bonds; from October 11 to November 11 no water bonds came in for registration: after December 1, registered $318 000 water bonds; got them from the stubs in the Controller's office; had to go for them; in October I had to get out the interest list; found from the stubs that some bonds, not registered, were held by parties; had no knowledge of the issue of water bonds; my duty is to know on the first of April and October how many bonds were issued, so as to register them, and make out a perfect and correct interest list; the registry, transfer and interest list is now about completed; registered bonds have been issued and no registry made; it seems to have been a mistake that this was not attended to; before I commenced my duties as bond clerk of the City Treasurer's office, there was a bond book, but it was not in proper shape; the custom heretofore has been to make no registry of bonds at the time of their issue, and the only registry made was when they were presented for transfer or for the payment of interest; these bonds, I presume, were issued by the Water Commission or by John Ross, as Secretary; street bonds were also issued in that way; an act of Assembly merely says there should be a bond clerk, but does not specify his duties; (how many issued;) the coupon bonds were issued prior to my time; those registered bonds that I handled were in the handwriting of John Ross, Secretary; don't know what the Controller's duties are; prior to the first of October I have issued $1,584,000; have paid interest on the following water extension and street improvement bonds:

WATER AND STREET BONDS ISSUED.	
October, water	$ 1,584,000
November, water	348,500
October, Thirty-third street	50,000
October, Liberty avenue	50,000
October, Wylie avenue	50,000
October, Pearl street	13,000
October, Hiland avenue	6,000
October, Main street	11,000
October, Bedford avenue	63,700
October, Butler street	65,900
October, Ellsworth avenue	100,000
October, Second avenue	20,000
October, Fifth avenue	200,000
October, Shady Lane and Walnut street	55,000
September, Wineldidle street	7,000
September, Taylor avenue	12,500
September, Cedar avenue	8,500
October, Jane street	19,000
September, Collins avenue	20,000
September, Neville avenue	35,000
September, Ella street	12,000
September, Elm street	11,500
August, Frankstown avenue	60,000
August, Penn avenue (from Butler to Forty-fifth street)	68,000
August, Penn avenue (from Forty-fifth street to city line	338,000
Total water and street bonds	

Witness continued—Never saw or heard of any street coupon bonds; have a complete register of all street bonds that have been issued; considered it my duty under the act of Assembly to register all bonds issued, but have not had time to do so.

GEO. B. HILL'S TESTIMONY.

Geo. B. Hill, sworn—Am a banker and broker; have sold water bonds; the water bonds were always delivered to us by John Ross, as Secretary of the Water Commission; the first payment made on proceeds was on April 21; were selling bonds for him until some time in June; negotiated for him $197,000; a portion of those bonds came to the Central bank; paid the money to Mr. Ross, as Secretary, in checks through the clearing-house; the Tradesmen's National cleared these bonds for us; gave the Central bank two checks, one for $50,000, the other for over $12,000; he said these bonds were awarded to the Central Bank, and asked us to sell them for us; have spoken to the Water Commissioner on the subject of receiving bonds from them; don't know whether any member of the Water Commission knew about this transaction; think one or two asked me how I was getting along with the sale; paid part in checks and accounted for another part to the City Solicitor and the Water Commission; knew that others were selling; charged my commission on the bonds I sold, or the checks I deposited there; understood that I was an authorized for the sale of these bonds; didn't know officially, heard it from hearsay; settled with the Water Commission for $26,600; settled through the City Solicitor.

WHY WM. LITTLE WOULDN'T HAVE THE SECRETARYSHIP.

Mr. Little sworn—Am a book-keeper; have acted for three days as Secretary of the Water Commissioner; saw the outside of their books; made out the pay rolls for November; when I accepted the position I thought it would give me employment for the winter; saw that there would be confusion ahead; and I thought it not worth my while to be implicated in it; filed my bond; felt myself quite competent; did not appreciate any difficulty in my being able to regulate the books, but I gave up the situation not because I found the books in confusion, but because I anticipated the trouble growing as it has done; I saw the books but never made an entry.

MR. FRIDAY RECALLED—A TRANSACTION WITH GRIER AND LINDSEY.

Wm. J. Friday recalled—Was concerned with Mr. Grier in two partnership transactions; one closed about a year and a half ago; have one with him now; Mr. Grier, Mr. Jas. H. Lindsey and myself are interested in two hundred barrels of whisky; Grier paid $748 for his third; we each had an equal share; that liquor cost $9,000; it is now worth $11,000; it is in the city; the agreement was made in the name of J. H. Lindsey & Co.; lifted our notes on that for $1,500; renewed notes for $2,500, and paid $500 on that; subsequently purchased Lindsey's third, and am now holding the two-third interest; Grier still holds the other third; don't know where Lindsey is now; last saw him four or five days after Mr. Grier left.

THE CITY ASSESSOR SWORN.

Thomas H. Phelps, sworn—Am City Assessor; was acting as City Treasurer in the absence of Mr. Magee, during August and September; received two or three checks from Townsend, Wheelen & Co.; September 26th received a teller's check from the Nation Trust Company for $15,000, signed John Ross, Secretary; that is the only one I recollect; first learned he had an account with the Nation Trust Company; have at various times received checks from the Central; also received $26,000 on the United States bank on September 29; he made no explanation to me; was in the office when Mr. Carroll and Mr. Laufman called on me; told them that I had received $10,000 and $4,000 in checks and $1,000 in cash, and that they were paid in by Ross since these developments.

THE CITY TREASURER EXPLAINS.

Mr. C. L. Magee, City Treasurer, was recalled at his own request, and emphatically contradicted Mr. Laufman's testimony to the effect that he (Mr. Magee) had treated that gentleman discourteously. He said that when Mr. Laufman asked to see his books he had given Mr. L. all possible satisfaction. He declared that Mr. L. must have forgotten the occurrence.

A LEADING BROKER ON THE STAND.

Mr. L. S. Kaufman, sworn—Am a broker doing business on Fourth avenue; first at 106 Smithfield street, now at 96 Fourth avenue; am acquainted with Bob Grier since September of last year; have had transactions with him in placing paper as with other cashiers; I may have placed for him probably $150,000; during the month of August I was sick with the fever; have been engaged in some little business transactions with Mr. Grier; in this much that my relations with him were personal ones, and he was interested with me in my business to a certain extent.

Q. To what extent?

A. I will answer that; he was interested as a silent partner in my business.

Q. We want to know how he stands in your transactions with the city?

A. I have had none with the city.

Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Kaufman's counsel, here stated that he had advised Mr. Kaufman not to answer any questions touching private business transactions.

Mr. Kaufman—I have nothing to conceal; their are certain details, however that I don't care about telling.

GRIER AND ROSS.

Q. State whether or not you know Bob Grier or John Ross.

A. Knew Grier, but did not know John Ross; never knew him; don't know him to-day.

Q. Did Mr. Grier advance you any money to advance to the Nation Trust Company?

A. I have advanced no bills receivable of the Nation Trust Company; have a note of Mr. Grier's, the maker and endorser of which the bank is aware of; but never realized any money on it; late last April Grier asked me to negotiate water bonds; he said that $100,000 would be issued in amounts to suit purchasers; when I went to Philadelphia I called on Jay Cooke & Co.; saw Jay Cooke, Jr.; asked him about the matter; he referred me to Townsend, Wheelen & Co.; I learned subsequently that they were the authorized agents for the sale of water bonds; ultimately the mater rested there; never saw or sold a water bond; never saw a street bond; did have Pittsburgh school bonds from Mr. Grier; there were $10,000 of those bonds that I negotiated in October or November of 1872.

The witness being questioned at length on this point, stated that there were two notes drawn in the name of Frank Ardary, which, after passing through a variety of phases, were now held by a Market street merchant. This note had been renewed several times.

NOTES GIVEN AS COLLATERAL,

This closed Mr. Kaufman's examination, and the memorandum, referred to in Alderman Taylor's testimony, which had been sent for, was here produced. It was read by the 'Squire, as follows:

Oct. 1, 1873—B. F. Ferris (3 months) to order of M. Domenec	$5,500 00
Sept. 27, 1873—W. H. Shoenberger (3 months) to order of C. S. Blair	7,000 00
Oct. 4, 1873—T. S. Blair (5 months) to W. H. Shoenberger	3,750 00
Oct. 13, 1873—Klonan, Carnegie & Co. (4 months) to W. J. Hammond	2,750 00
Oct. 6, 1873—Same to same (5 months)	3,500 00

'Squire Taylor further testified that he understood the first note to have been given by Bob Grier as collateral for Wm. Smith & Son,s loan of $50,000 to relieve the bank from the run on it after the panic. He stated that he didn't know whether they got the collaterals at the time; can't tell whether the loan made by Smith & Sons was in

MONEY OR BONDS;

on the day of the panic the Controller came up, and I heard it said that he was going to get us out of our difficulty; thought they give it to us.

Mr. R. H. Smith here stated that the deposit was made by them to relieve the bank, and instead of the bank allowing them to check it out, the cashier gave them these notes as collateral instead.

AWARD OF THE ARBITRATORS.

The Chairman of the Committee here stated that the arbitrators, Col. Phillips and Jno. R. McCune, Esq., had made their award, and he had the pleasure of presenting it. It was read by Mr. McCune. It recites that the above named gentlemen were appointed to arbitrate between the city and the Nation Trust Company in regard to the indebtedness of the latter, including interest on deposit to date of payment—outside of the bonds in Philadelphia, which liability is admitted; that they had heard the parties, in person and by their counsel, their proofs and arguments, and after a careful consideration of the evidence submitted, consisting of indisputed and indisputable original papers and entries in the book of the company, sustained by uncontradicted evidence, they

FIND AND AWARD

that the Nation Trust Company is indebted to the city of Pittsburgh on account of deposits made in the name of John Ross and of John Ross, Secretary of the Board of Water Commissioners, including interest (at six per cent. per annum) on daily balances up to this date (Dec. 19, 1873) in the sum of $238,904 02, which is to bear interest from this date, until paid. The arbitrators append the following summary statement, from which their award results:

SUMMARY STATEMENT.

Amount of deposits proceeds of Water Extension bonds	$297,656 98
Amount of deposit on account of Thirty-third Street Improvement bonds	8,000 00
Dishonored checks of Cashier of Nation Trust Company given to John Ross and subsequently credited to him in account along with the aforesaid $8,000	15,000 00
Amount paid by John Ross for the Nation Trust Company to John G. MacConnell on its proper check for $2,500, under an agreement by the Cashier to credit said payment to said Ross' account in bank, and for which he gave him the proper deposit tab, proven by the tab and the evidence of said Ross and MacConnell	2,500 00
Proceeds of note of H. B. Swoope for $5,000, dated September 2, 1873, at 90 days, the discounting of which by the Nation Trust Company was procured by John Ross, he having been charged in account by said Company with his check to Thos. MacConnell, Jr., Manager of the Evening Telegraph Company, for the full amount of said note, which note has been paid by its maker to the Receiver of the Nation Trust Company, but no credit has been given for said proceeds to Ross by the Nation Trust Company	2,938 00
Amount of interest (6 per cent. per annum) on daily balances	9,809 56
Total	$335,904 02

The following checks drawn by John Ross again, and paid by the Nation Trust Company on the deposits and credits included in the debit side of this statement:

August 15, 1873	$15,000 00
August 19, 1873	15,000 00
August 26, 1873	10,000 00
September 1, 1873	8,000 00
September 2, 1873	1,000 00
September 10, 1873	15,000 00
September 13, 1873	15,000 00
September 15, 1873	200 00
September 19, 1873	20,000 00
September 20, 1873	4,000 00
September 22, 1873	500 00
October 28, 1873	500 00
	$97,000 00

RECAPITULATION.

Debit	$335,904 02
Credit	97,000 00
Total due city	$238,904 02

A DISPUTE.

Messrs. Negley and Fetterman contended that the items of bond hypothecation should have been included in this award.

Messrs. Phillips and McCune insisted that the arbitrators were not appointed for that purpose; that the matter did not properly come before them.

Reference was finally made to the minutes of Councils touching the text of the proposition made by the stockholders of the Nation Trust Company to the city, upon the reading of which by Clerk Morrow, Messrs. Negley and Fetterman withdrew their objections.

The report was then received, and the sub-committee discharged.

THE CURTAIN DROPS.

Subsequently the reporters and all other persons not members of the Finance Committee were requested to withdraw, whereupon the investigators went into secret session, in order to decide upon the tenor of their report to Councils on Monday next, and to appoint a committee to draw up such report.

Before the reporters withdrew, it was stated by Maior Negley that he would like to examine another witness, (name not given, but supposed to be James Lindsey.) It was ordered that a subpœna be served on him, and in case he refused to come, that an attachment be issued for his arrest. It was stated that Lindsay was keeping out of the way purposely.

The reporters then shook the dust off their feet, and glided benignly out of Select Council chamber, leaving the committee to get along as best they could without the powerful aid of the pencil-slingers.

THE COURTS.

THURSDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Court of Quarter Sessions—Judge Sterrett.

Daniel Hanlon, charged with aggravated assault and battery. was acquitted but ordered to pay the costs.

William Burgess, charged with aggravated assault and battery by R. G. McMillen, was found not guilty but directed to pay two-thirds of the costs, the balance to be paid by defendant.

On a similar charge, preferred by John A. Walker, the same defendant, plead guilty to simple assault and battery.

John Partridge plead guilty to the larceny of a pocket book containing about thirty dollars and belonging to Andrew W. Garlach. He was remanded for sentence.

Frederick Madison plead guilty to an indictment charging him entering a building with intent to commit a felony.

Patrick Necham was found guilty on a charge of larceny, preferred by Charles A. Gross.

The jury are out in the case of George Arnold, John Bracken and Reddy Waxend, indicted on oath of Elias Sullivan for the larceny of seventy-five cents.

Court of Common Pleas—Judges Stowe and Collier.

The only case on trial in this court was that of the Pittsburgh, Virginia, and Charleston Railroad Company vs. General George W. Cass, an action to recover $20,000 subscribed to the capital stock of the road.

In the case of White vs. Arrott & Lockhart, previously reported, the jury found for plaintiff $750.

A verdict for $11 37½ was returned for plaintiff in the case of Joseph H. Wagoner vs. Tracy & Erwin, previously reported.

The jury in the case of Bridenthal vs. Bayard & Moore, found for plaintiff for $94 24.

In the case of John Bredon & Co. vs. Georgo Bayard et al., a verdict for plaintiff for $94 24 was rendered.

District Court—Judges Ewing and White.

The case of Wenzer vs. the Pennsylvani Railroad Company is still on trial.

The case of J. Sharp McDonald vs. the owners of the steam tug Dodsworth, is on trial. This case is similar to that of Brown vs. the owners of the steam tug Picket; which, after a trial of seven or eight days length, has been submitted to the jury.

In the case of Jacob Och vs. the Homestead Bank and Life Insurance Company, the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff for $1,134 70, subject to the opinion of the Court on the reserved question.

FRIDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Court of Quarter Sessions—Judge Sterrett.

The jury in the case of the boys Bracken, Arnold, Meehan and Waxter charged with larceny, found Bracken and Arnold guilty and acquitted the other two.

Edward Wadsworth, a boy plead guilty to a charge of larceney and sent to the reform school.

Frederick Deopold plead guilty to a charge of selling liquor in violation of the Act of April 9th, 1870, and was fined $60 and costs.

Thomas Johnston was tried on an indictment for fellonious assault and battery, on oath of Frank Gent. A verdict of guilty of unlawfully cutting and wounding the prosecitor was rendered.

James Thompson plead guilty to a charge of larceny preferred by Edwin S. Neary, and was sentenced to the Work House for one year.

A verdict of not guilty was rendered as to Mathias Bollenberg, charged with entering a building with intent to commit a felony. Charles Langkowsky was the prosecutor.

James Trimble plead guilty to a charge of burglary preferred by David K. Lewis, and was remanded for sentence.

Cornelius Hays, charged with the same offense by Catharine Rettstadt, was acquitted.

Agnes O'Donnell, a bright and pretty little girl, charged by Ann Beacon with assault and battery, was found not guilty.

The jury was out in the cases of Frank and Lena Hoffman, cross suits of assault and battery.

Sarah McKinsey, charged with keeping a bawdy house, was dismissed on her own recognizance in the sum of $200, the prosecutor failing to appear.

T. A. Fields, alias Henry M. Rushing, plead guilty to unlawfully selling a railroad pass. The history of the case has been published.

Court of Common Pleas—Judges Stowe and Collier.

The case of the P. V. & C. R. R. vs. Gen. George W. Cass, previously reported, is still on trial.

The case of Bourne vs. the Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum, an action brought to recover for repairs to the heating apparatus of the asylum, is also on trial.

District Court—Judges Ewing and White.

The case of McDonald vs. Risher et al. is still on trial before Judge Ewing.

In the case of Charles Wenzer vs. the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, reported yesterday, the jury was withdrawn, and the cause continued. The case will likely be settled amicably.

In the case of David B. Morris vs. the Carson Street Methodist Episcopal church, owner, and John D. Waters, contractor, being a scire facias on a mechanics' lien, the jury found for plaintiff for $424 25. A motion was made and reasons for a new trial were filed by counsel for defendants.

The case of John Huckestine vs. William Lamon, Sr., an action of replevin, is on trial.

SATURDAY'S PROCEEDINGS—JUDGEMENT DAY IN THE CRIMINAL COURT.

Court of Quarter Sessions—Judge Sterrett.

James Trimble who plead guilty to a charge of burglary on the residence of David R. Lewis, on the fifth of this month, was sentenced to imprisonment in the penitentiary for four years and six months.

Edward Williams, convicted of larceny, was allotted a term of fifteen months in the Work House.

In the case of John Adams and William Harrison, found guilty of larceny on oath of Samuel Moffit, but recommended to the mercy of the court, the former was sentenced to the Work House for eight months, and the latter to the House of Refuge until further order.

William Burgess, convicted of an aggravated assault on John A. Walker, was fined $100 and costs.

Margaret Edwards, convicted of simple assault on Lena Carr, was sentenced to pay a fine of five dollars and costs.

John Partridge who plead nolo contendere to a charge of larceny preferred by Andrew H. Garlach, was sent to the Work House for eighteen months.

Frank McDonald, convicted of assault and battery and obstructing an officer, on oath of James Smith, was scantenced to the Work House for six months.

John Goggins and Patrick Holland were arraigned on a conviction of larceny and receiving stolen goods. Goggins was sentenced to serve two years in the Work House. The judge remarked that he believed Holland had been drawn into the gang by designing ones, and let him off with six months in the same institution.

Richard Ennis was sentenced to serve two years in the Work House for receiving stolen goods.

Michael Ford who plead guilty to simple assault and battery, was turned over to Warden Smith for ten days.

James Smith was given twenty months in the workhouse for larceny.

George Bracken, John Arnold and Patrick Meehan, a trio of boys who had been convicted of till tapping, claimed to be able to show mitigating circumstances in their favor, and were remanded until to-day in order that they might have a chance to do so.

Court of Common Pleas—Judges Stowe and Collier.

On petition of William Tann, leave was granted him to adopt Eden Dilworth, with the consent of her mother.

An order was granted allowing the First Associate Reform Church of Manchester to make certain amendments to their charter.

No other buainess of general interest was transacted.

District Court.

Three juries were drawn in this Court for the third Monday in January and first and third Mondays in February.

United States Circuit Court—Judge McKennan.

In the matter of Kramer & Vogelson vs. R. M. Doyle, preliminary injunction was granted against the defendant to restrain certain creditors from interfering with or disposing of the property of the alleged bankrupt.

In the suit of M. D. Bergin vs. the city of Pittsburgh, a mandamus execution was ordered to issue.

In the matter of Thomas W. Loughrey vs. Backus & Morris, a preliminary injunction was granted to restrain execution creditor from disposing of the property of the bankrupt.

A number of motions for preliminary injunction in other cases were made but the arguments on the same were postponed until to-day.

PETITIONS IN BANKRUPTCY.

Lewis S. Layton, of Allegheny, yesterday filed a voluntary petition for the adjudication of himself in bankruptcy. The matter was referred to Register Shaffer for examination and report.

The First National Bank of Waynesburg's creditors filed a petition in bankruptcy vs. John S. Bayard, of Greene county.

A similar petition was filed by Kramer & Vogleson et al. against Henry L. Cartin, of Greene county.

The Cleveland Paper Manufacturing Company also asked for the adjudication in bankruptcy of Martin V. B. Cowan and Ferdinand F. Protzman, partners, doing business as publishers of the Iron World, of this city.

DEATH IN A FREIGHT CAR.

A Cleveland freight car was sent up the Allegheny Valley railroad one day about the middle of last week, and run off at the switch at Brilliant station. On Saturday morning the car was brought down to Eleventh street, and when the car was opened a man was discovered it it in a dying condition. A physician was summoned, but the man died before he arrived. From papers found on his person his name was supposed to be Patrick Rice. On one scrap of paper was written "Barney McCabe, No. 98 Irwin avenue, Allegheny." He was about fifty years of age, and from appearances had evidently died from dissipation and exposure.

The body was taken to Devore's undertaking rooms, on Grant street, where the Coroner held an inquest, and a verdict of death from intoxication and exposure was rendered.

The Coroner called on Mr. McCabe, the man mentioned in the note, who said he believed the deceased, from the description, to be Patrick Rice, who had been working for a contractor in Manchester. He says the deceased has no relatives in this country, but has a sister living in Glasgow, Scotland.

LEG BROKEN.

Joseph K. Hillyer, who resides on Chartiers street below Nixon, Allegheny, was thrown out of a wagon near the Marine Hospital about four o'clock Saturday evening, and had his leg badly broken, the bone being crushed for quite a distance. The accident was caused by the horses taking fright and starting suddenly.

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This farm is located on the forks of the Sewickly, Rochester, Beaver, Brighton, Harmony, Franklin and Pittsburgh Roads. Distant from Pittsburgh 15 miles; from Sewickly, Rochester and Beaver about 10 miles each, and from Harmony 11 miles. The improvements are a large two-story frame dwelling house, with an L to it, a frame store house, a two-story frame tenant house, a large bank barn, spring house, corn crib, coal house, and other farm buildings; two good bearing orchards on it. Would divide very well in three or four small farms, having good spring water in each farm, also timber on each place. If the above property is not sold before the fifth day of February, 1874, it will be offered at public outcry on said farm, at one o'clock on that day. For further information apply to JOHN H. FOWLER, Esq., near said place, or to JOS. COULTER, Unionville, Butler Co., Pa.

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FORTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, December 18, 1873.

THE SENATE.

Mr. BOUTWELL, from the Committee on Commerce, reported back the bill amendatory of an act relating to the enrollment and licensing of certain vessels. Passed.

Mr. HOWE introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on Pensions to inquire into the expediency of placing on the pension rolls the names of all honorably discharged soldiers and sailors of the war of 1812, irrespective of the terms of service. Passed.

Mr. INGALLS presented a petition from the citizens of Kansas, asking the passage of a law allowing soldiers in the late war a bounty and 160 acres of land. Passed.

Mr. ANTHONY, from the Committee on Printing, reported back a bill to provide for the printing of the biennial register or blue book, Passed.

THE FINANCIAL QUESTION.

The financial bill was then taken up.

Mr. BOUTWELL looked with apprehension upon any plea to return to specie payments by way of contraction The shock caused by the contraction would be detrimental to both the private and public interests of the country. He favored maintaining the value of currency at the minimum point established by law and wait for the development of the resources of the country.

Mr. HOWE thought there was good, wholesome reason once for substituting paper for coin, but the reason had passed long ago. He thought if the Government added a dollar to the volume of currency or he might term it "our broken promises" would be little less than a perpetration of public crime. He hoped Congress would not authorize its enlargement of the circulation.

Mr. FERRY (Mich.) did not believe these was much difference in the Senate in the question whether our currency or gold should be made equivalent. The only difference was in the method of doing it.

Mr. MORTON said the faith of the government was pledged to redeem our greenbacks in coin. He did not deny that we should steadily keep in view the return to specie payment, but the question was whether this is the proper time to adopt such measures. There was a wrong time to do a right thing, and, in his opinion, this was not the time to return to specie payment. He offered his protest against such language as that used by the Senator from Massachusetts (Sumner) that the country is dishonored. It had not been dishonorable at any time since the close of the war to redeem our currency in coin.

Mr. SUMNER—Will the Senator allow me to ask whether, in this interval, we have not paid a considerable amount of the national debt? I think, a larger amount than the outstanding legal tenders.

Mr. MORTON—We have, but never had enough gold on hand at one time to authorize us or make it safe for us to redeem these notes in coin.

Mr. SUMNER—My friend is aware that when we had gold we paid off the debt instead of paying the running daily obligations of the government.

Mr MORTON replied that had the daily obligations been so paid, coin would have been taken up and the treasury bankrupt in forty-eight hours.

Mr. SUMNER—Was not the original suspension of specie payments making our paper inconvertible essentially a war measure to carry on war, and therefore should not have been terminated immediately after the war.

Mr. MORTON—I agree with the Senator, and yet it does not change my course of argument. It was a war measure and the understanding was when notes were issued that they would be paid when the country was able.

Mr MORRILL (Vt.) inquires if the gentleman did not recognize the fact that during this panic there had been a large addition to circulation by drawing on the forty-million reserve.

Mr. MORTON replied in the affirmative and stated that the policy was beneficial to the country. He favored a small addition to the volume of currency as the true remedy. The government did all in its power to relieve the panic at the beginning by the issue of a part of the forty-four million reserve did much to restore confidence.

At three o'clock the Senate went into executive session. At five o'clock the doors were re-opened and the resolution to adjourn over during the holidays was reported from the House. Without taking action the Senate adjourned.

THE HOUSE.

Mr. HALE, of New York, rising to a personal explanation, referred to the amendment offered yesterday by Mr. Wilson of Indiana, directing that fees be paid a member of Congress as agent or counsel of the United States, while such member should have the amount deducted from his compensation as a member. He said this was intended to fix on the records and files of the House a stigma on him, (Hale) a deliberate and planned insult, and as such he accepted it. He proceeded to give the history of his engagement as agent and counsel of the United States in the matter of the fixed British and American Commission, saying that he notified the Secretary of State after his election that under the law he could not continue to act, and that Congress passed a joint resolution authorizing his continued employment as counsel.

The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Butler) did not see fit to prepare castigations to be administered, but he proceeded it to be administered by reaching his long arm around the gentleman from Wisconsin, (Mr. Eldridge) and through him invited the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. Wilson) to present the amendment.

BUTLER—Not a word of truth in it.

Mr. WILSON (Ind.)—The gentleman is entirely mistaken. The gentleman from Massachusetts never said one word to me on the subject.

ELDRIDGE—And I say that every statement relating to me in regard to that matter is untrue.

HALE—If the gentleman who gave the information will allow me I will inform him.

BUTLER—Pardon me, I will give the information.

HALE—I will hold the floor until I have finished my remarks. I say that I have the authority of the gentleman on the floor whom I shall name, if he permits me, in saying that the amendment of the gentleman from Indiana (Wilson) came before the House at the suggestion of the gentleman from Wisconsin, (Eldridge) and came pursuant to warning which the gentleman from Massachusetts (Butler) had given me. The selection was an eminently appropriate one. The gentleman from Indiana (Wilson) is a special representative of a class of men to whom the salary of $7,5 was due, who, by their votes, proceed to a direct and square vote, defined the proposition, and then, by votes, when they could escape from responsibility and carry the idea to constituents that they were opposed to measure aided by a subterfuge in the stage of the bill. Mr. Hale then read several votes taken at the last on the salary question, intimating some of the votes Mr. Wilson had by refraining from voting. With record he was not surprised that the gentleman from Indiana had been selected an instrument to make that attack on him. It was not an uncommon thing to find even among the beasts, those who, when defiled themselves, were anxious to defile those around them. He had seen

A CUR EMERGING FROM A PUDDLE,

with its hair draggled with filth, force its way among decent people and rub itself against them, or show its filth among them. He had seen that experiment tried, and had seen decent people smirched in that way, but he had never known the cur that did it to be anything else than a dirty dog, and he believed that that would inevitably be always the case.

THE REPLY.

Mr. WILSON (Indiana) having got unanimous consent to reply to Mr. Hale, began by saying that the House had just had a very fine specimen of a dirty dog. [Applause and hand-clapping, which the Speaker reproved]. The dodging which he had been accused of by the gentleman from New York he explained by showing that the votes referred to had been taken while he (Wilson) was in Boston, by order of the House, carrying on the Credit Mobilier investigation. He defended his action yesterday in offering amendments on the ground that the gentleman from New York (Hale) had been running about the House for several days prescribing

CLEAN LINEN

for everybody else, and as he did not wish that that gentleman should wear a dirty shirt, he had offered the amendment. That the gentleman had charged members of the last Congress with having enacted the salary bill by trick. He (Wilson) thought he would show that that gentleman had been doing the same thing himself in an aggravated degree during the time that he (Hall) had been drawing a salary from the government at the rate of ten thousand dollars a year. He had been also drawing his salary as a member of Congress. The law under which he had done was taken from the Speaker's table in the last hours of Congress, and had been passed without a single word of explanation. Was that manly? Was that honest? He thought that when that gentleman was seeking to cast a stigma on his fellows, it was high time he should cover into the treasury money thus taken out of it.

AN EXPLANATION.

Mr. ELDRIDGE explained his connection with the amendment offered by Mr. Wilson, if that stigmatized the gentleman from New York (Hale) it was his own fault. If that gentleman had been wallowing in

A POOL OF MUD

and had come out of it, and if some one had posted him so that he felt himself dirty, he (Eldridge) did not think that he, (Hale) had cleaned himself much this morning. By what ethics did that gentleman charge him with wrong in taking a salary of $7,500 as a servant of the United States, while he himself was taking $17,500 as a servant of the United States. Why had not the gentleman lifted that extra $10,000 in the Treasury? and contented himself with his pay as a member of Congress?

Mr. BUTLER (Mass.) regretted very much this unfortunate scene. He was very sorry that the heat of debate had so far misled the cool judgment of the gentleman from New York (Hale) as to make him say what he was sure he would regret. He thought the members had a right to complain that that gentleman, while drawing $17,500 a year, had been denouncing them for drawing $7,500 a year. It looked like the rich man taking the one ewe lamb of the poor man. He could refer that gentleman to high authority. Let him look at the fourth chapter of St. John, where a woman taken in adultery was brought before the Savior. He said, turning to her accusers, "Let him who is without sin among you cast the first stone." Could his friend (Hale) have led the stoning party on that occasion [Laughter] as he had led the salary repeal party in the House. They all went out and left the woman standing alone before the Savior, and He said, "Woman, go and sin no more." That is what they intended to do in this House on the question of salary, [Laughter] only their accusers had not gone out. [Continued laughter.]

Mr. KELLEY offered a resolution which was adopted.

Resolved, That the Secretary be and he is hereby directed to furnish this House with a statement of the total amount of money received on temporary loans, under the acts of February 25th, March 17th and July 16th, 1862 and the act of June 30th 1864, stating specifically the largest amount on deposit under each act at any time, the rate of interest thereon, together with the amount of said certificates presented for payment, exclusive of exchange for other securities in each month while said certificates were outstanding; also whether any of said certificates, and if so what amount were paid and redeemed out of the redemption fund of fifty millions authorized by said acts to be held by the Secretary for the prompt payment of said loans.

Mr. COX presented a memorial of the Chamber of Commerce of the city of New York on the subject of collisions at sea.

Mr. HOOPER introduced a bill authorizing the issue of certificates for net coinage, value of gold bullion deposited at the mints and assay office. Referred.

The Speaker announced that he had appointed Messrs. E. R. Hoar, Cox and Hazleton regents of the Smithsonian Institute for the next two years.

THE NAVAL APPROPRIATION.

Mr. GARFIELD, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported back the Senate amendment to the bill making appropriations for extraordinary expenses of the naval service, increasing the amount from four to five million dollars. The amendment was concurred in.

Mr. GARFIELD also reported the bill appropriating $25,185 for a year's salary of the five official reporters of the debates. Passed.

Mr. SENOR offered a resolution instructing the Committee of War Claims to inquire as to the expediency of extending the time within which loyal adherents to the government of the United States during the war may file their claims, in conformity with the act of March 3d, 1871. Adopted.

THE HOLIDAY ADJOURNMENT.

Mr. DAWES offered a concurrent resolution of adjournment over the holidays, from to-morrow till Monday, the 5th of January. Adopted.

A POSTAL TELEGRAPH BILL INTRODUCED.

Mr. DAWES introduced a postal telegraph bill, which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. ORR offered a resolution instructing the Secretary of the Interior to certify no lands to any railroad company, when such lands are claimed under the homestead or preemption laws, and to take no further action in any such case till the whole subject can be investigated and some general action taken by Congress. Referred.

SUPPLEMENTARY CIVIL RIGHTS BILL.

Mr. BUTLER (Massachusetts), from the Judiciary Committee, reported a supplementary civil rights bill. It provides that any proprietor of a public inn, a place of entertainment, a line of stage coaches or other means of transportation, or of a cemetery, benevolent institution or public school, wholly or partly endowed for public use, who shall make any distinction as to admission or accommodation of any citizens of the United States because of race, color or previous condition of servitude, shall, on conviction thereof, be fined not less than $100 nor more than $5,000 for each offense, and shall be liable to citizens thereby injured in damages to be recovered in action of debt, such action to be prosecuted in any United States Court or District Court having jurisdiction. He gave notice that he would ask action on it to-morrow.

Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, December 19, 1873.

THE SENATE.

Mr. SUMNER presented a petition of a large number of citizens of New York, asking for the general disarmament of the federal forces and the adoption of the provisions to settle all difficulties by arbitration.

The Senate by a vote of thirty-two against twenty-seven, agreed to the House resolutions.

The amendments reported from the Committee on Civil Rights and Retrenchment to the House salary bill, are in the nature of a substitute for it as follows:

"Be it enacted, &c.," That so much of the act of March 3d, '73, as provides for the increase of compensation of members of Congress and the several officers and employees of either House of Congress, or both, be and the same is hereby repealed, and salaries and compensation of all said persons shall be as fixed by laws in force at the time of the passage of said act.

Section 2. That the compensation of the several heads of departments shall be each $8,000 per annum;

Section 3. That the Secretary of the Treasury be required to cover into the Treasury all sums that may remain undrawn or which have been received as increased compensation under the provisions of the said act approved March 3, 1873, and which shall have or may come into his possession by the return thereof.

Mr. MORTON submitted a resolution that the Committee on Judiciary be instructed that in any bill they may report in regard to the bankrupt law, whether for its repeal or amendment thereto, that such repeal or such amendments as relate to acts, causes or conditions by virtue of which any person may be thrown into involuntary bankruptcy shall be made retroactive, and to date back and take effect at a period not later than the 1st of December, 1873.

Mr. CLAYTON submitted a resolution that the Select Committee on Levees of the Mississippi river be authorized to sit at such places as they may designate during the holiday recess, and to investigate and report upon the subject of levees.

The Senate then went into executive session, and the Senate adjourned until January 5th, 1874.

THE HOUSE.

Mr. BUTLER, of Massachusetts, from the Judiciary Committee, offered a resolution authorizing that committee to send a sub-committee of two to New Orleans to take testimony in the matter of the impeachment of Judge Durrell, with power to send for persons and papers. Adopted.

CIVIL RIGHTS.

Mr. BUTLER called up the supplementary civil rights bill. He said that the bill gave no right which every man did not now posses, except where there was hostile State legislation. The bill simply proposes to give to any one from whom this right was taken a means of over riding that hostile State legislation.

IS THERE ANY NECESSITY FOR THE BILL?

Mr. BROMBERG asked Mr. Butler whether there was any evidence before the Committee as to the necessity for this law, and also why those Southern State Legislatures which had so long been controlled by the Republican party had not passed all necessary laws.

Mr. BUTLER replied that the colored witnesses on their way to testify before the reconstruction committee, had been forced into smoking cars. The Republican State Legislatures had not acted in the matter because they were waiting for Congress to do so.

Mr. COX proposed to amend the bill so as to make colored persons liable to the penalties of the bill.

Mr. BUTLER said that that amendment was not necessary.

REMARKS OF MR. BECK.

Mr. BECK opposed the bill. He declared that not a man on his side of the House wanted to see the negro oppressed, but they objected to this bill, because Congress was usurping authority over matters that belonged exclusively to the States. They were approaching consolidation fast enough. They were drifting into

CENTRALISM

so steadily that before long the States would bear the same relation to the general government as counties now did to States. He objected to this bill because such coercive legislation as would force colored children into the same schools with white children would not operate to the benefit of the colored people, but to their positive injury. It might not affect gentlemen who could send their children to private schools, but it would drive away the industrious poor people who objected to their children associating with colored children, and would injure the States and break up the public school system there.

RAILWAYS.

Mr. LUTTRELL offered a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to report a bill directing suits to be brought against several Pacific railroad companies for interest paid for them by the government. Referred.

Mr. COTTON offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Railroads and Canals to inquire whether the rates charged by the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad companies for transportation cars of freight and passengers across bridges and tracks connecting the Davenport and Rock Island railroad are reasonable and if not to secure reasonable rates. Adopted.

THE CASE OF GEN. HOWARD.

Mr. COBURN, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a resolution requesting the President to convene a court of inquiry to consist of not less than five officers of the army, whose duty it shall be to investigate all charges against Brigadier General O. O. Howard, contained in the communication of the Secretary of War, December 5. After considerable discussion the whole matter was recommitted.

Mr. CESSNA presented a petition signed by two hundred and one citizens of Somerset county, Pa., relative to the claim of Geo. Charpenu against the government, urging its re-opening and re-examination. He proceeded to state the history of the case and to defend his own connection with it and the action of Postmaster-General Cresswell.

The SPEAKER to Mr. CESSNA—What Committee does the gentleman desire to have the papers referred to?

Mr. CESSNA—I have not yet presented the papers. I will withhold them for the present.

Mr. DAWES (sarcastically)—This is a personal explanation. [Laughter].

The House then adjourned to January 5, 1874.

NEW CONSTITUTION.

OFFICIAL RETURNS.

Specials to THE POST.]

Westmoreland county, official, For 4081, against 2456, majority for 1,625.

J. M. LAIRD.

Beaver county, official, For the Constitution 3037, against 1159, majority for 1878.

W. B. DUNLAP.

Mercer county, official, For 3894, against 2104, majority for 1790.

HARRY WATSON.

The majority for the new Constitution in Lawrence county is 2,192.

X.

CHICAGO.

REPORT OF THE HOG PACKING BUSINESS.

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—The following are returns in round numbers of the hogs packed during the season to date as compared with the same time last season, official and estimated: For 1872—Chicago, 894,000; Cincinnati, 490,000; Louisville, 220,000; St. Louis, 250,000; Des Moines, 32,000; Detroit, 31,000; Cedar Rapids, 32,000; Indianapolis, 171,000; Franklin, Indiana, 21,000; Delphi, Indiana, 17,000; Sioux City, Iowa, 10,000; Council Bluffs, Iowa, 10,000.

For 1873—Chicago, 533,000; Cincinnati, 120,000; Louisville, 230,000; Des Moines, 15,000; St. Louis, 310,000; Cedar Rapids, 13,000; Indianapolis, 90,000; Delphi, Indiana, 12,000.

ROSS' MINUTE BOOK

AN INSTANCE OF MISPLACED CONFIDENCE THAT AMOUNTS TO THE LOSS OF $521,000 TO THE CITY.

A great deal of difficulty was experienced in getting the Finance Committee together at their investigation Thurs day afternoon. The meeting was called for three o'clock, and it was not until half-past three that a quorum could be found. Even then the bare quorum was not obtained, until Dr. Gross, who as President of Select Council, is *ex-officio* a member of all Council committees, entered the room. So much for that! Subsequently two or three members of the committee made their *entree*, and swelled the quorum to the extent of two or three additional members. But there was a noticeable absence of members of the Committee, and as far as our recollection serves us they number about thirty; and eleven, according to the rules, constitutes a quorum. The idea of a bare quorum, not even two-thirds of this very sapient Finance Committee (who are about coming down to "hard pan") continuing their investigation with barely a majority of the members of the Committee present is so absurd and so unofficial as scarcely to deserve the merit of drawing attention to the fact. That the Finance Committee of the Councils of the City of Pittsburgh should be called together to investigate the *steal* of $521,000 of the city water bonds—we have nothing to say now about the jeopardy of the city school bonds or the peril of other funds in which the tax-payers are interested—with barely more than a quorum, is simply absurd. It is certainly expected by our *municipolitans* that there should be a full attendance of the Finance Committee. And in saying this we mean even those of the Finance Committee who, out of *delicate* motives, remained away, as well as all others. For the fact is, that when the representatives of the people are elected to seats in councils—that is, to sit in council for the people, for their benefit and that alone—and after their taking a solemn oath to fulfill their duties with fidelity, there is not alone an obligation to attend to their duties, but to even throw aside every other private concern, no matter whether it is a large or a small business in which the member is engaged, in order to fulfil that oath. And when that member is appointed on a committee, it is understood, and he himself understands—and if he don't he ought to—that in addition to his obligation as a councilman, (which word indicates that he has been selected from all others to legislate for the good order of the municipality) he assumes an additional responsibility, and that is to even be something more than a councilman, (who has been elected by the people to represent them, and who has their confidence—to use as he sees fit;) in fact, as a committee-man he is more than a councilman. As a councilman, he takes an oath to serve the people with fidelity; as a member of a committee, he is selected, or chosen, for his particular fitness, by that very same assemblage of councilmen, who have taken the oath of fidelity to the interests of the city. So much for the duties of a committee-man, without any reference to the members of any Commission, which rule of irresponsible bodies will be happily abolished when the new Constitution goes into effect.

YESTERDAY'S INVESTIGATION.

THE WATER COMMISSIONERS AGAIN ON THE STAND.

After the committee was called to order, Major Negley asked that Hill Burgwin, Esq., a member of the Water Commission, be recalled, in order to receive his statements as to the minutes of the Water Commission. This was agreed to, and Mr. Burgwin, who had previously been sworn, were again placed on the stand. He testified as follows:

TESTIMONY OF HILL BURGWIN.

I am a member of the Water Commission; we were severally sworn to perform our duties faithfully; on March 12th, 1872, we authorized the Controller to issue certificates for warrants to D. W. C. Carroll for $1,000 to be used by him as a contingent fund for incidental expenses, as shown on the minutes of that date; our object was to pay for carriage hire for the members of the commission to visit the new water works; to pay the expenses of experts for whom we had sent; and for other trifling expenses that might accrue and for which it was necessary to have a contingent fund; it was too much trouble to get the board together to draw from the City Treasury just as needed; on April 10th the salary of the Secretary of the Water Commission was fixed at $2,000; on April 12, 1872, John Ross was elected Secretary of the Board; on September 5 his salary was raised to $2,500, and the salaries of the chief and mechanical engineers were fixed at $4,000; these matters were

NOT APPROVED BY COUNCILS;

the terms of the Secretary and engineers were made for three years by authority of the Board, for the reason that some of us had to serve for that length of time; we did not calculate that the works would be finished then; on June 14, 1872, the bond of our Secretary, on September 3, 1872, the bond of Kennedy, the Chief Engineer, and on November 6 the bond of the Mechanical Engineer, Lowry, was presented; we permitted them to act that long after the time of their appointment because the two engineers were not handling any money, and the Secretary because he was

NOT HANDLING MUCH MONEY;

the Secretary was employed to keep the minutes; to receive visitors and attend in general to the office business; the minutes of January 25, 1873, are in the handwriting of a young man whom Ross employed; don't know why the minutes from January 25 till April 7, 1873, were not signed by the Secretary; the amount of his bond was $25,000; don't remember what his penalty was; on April 23, 1872, we instructed the President and Secretary to procure the necessary books, stationery and furniture for the office.

THE CITY HALL COMMISSION.

Col. Phillips—Why not apply to the City Hall Commission?

Mr. Burgwin—Who is the City Hall Commission.

Col. Phillips—It seems to me you spoke about the matter to the City Hall Commission informally, and asked us to get you a safe; we told you that the building was itself a safe.

Mr. Burgwin—On May 11, 1872 a warrant for $750 was ordered in favor of the Secretary to pay interest on the Gill mortgage for $25,000; and on November 13, 1872 a warrant was ordered in favor of Mr. Gill for $25,750; don't know what became of the extra $750; on April 3, 1872, we authorized the Secretary to sell bonds to persons in the city desiring the same for permanent investment, but the minutes don't say that; the entry is incorrect; and in saying "to sell," I mean that he was only authorized to bargain for their sale; don't remember ever to have canceled this authority; frequently was not at the meeting of the Board; on May 4, 1872, the Secretary was instructed to write to Townsend, Wheelen & Co., requesting them to remit the proceeds of bonds and to make all checks payable to the order of D. W. C. Carroll, as President; know of no authority given the Secretary to sell bonds; all the bonds that we authorized to be sold were sold; we determined to make large sales in the spring instead of the fall, as experience had taught us that that was a dull time; cant say why the Secretary was sent along with Mr. Laufman; it is possible that Mr. L. was going on to New York at the time, and we thought it a good opportunity to send the bonds with him; on May 11, 1872, the Secretary was ordered to advertise

THE SALE OF BONDS;

we did this because the market was dull; we had an arrangement already with Townsend, Wheelen & Co., but it was a special one; on June 4, 1872, the Board directed that the Controller be instructed to issue no water bonds nor deliver the same to any person except the Secretary, and further to issue no certificate on appropriation No. 24, (water extension loan) except on the resolution of the board; we had implicit confidence in the Secretary; on October 3, 1872, we ordered the Secretary to go to New York to make arrangements with E. W. Smith and Edward Farren as a board of mechanical engineers to meet the Commission; this was entrusted to the Secretary for the reason that at the time he could best be spared; on April 7, 1873, the Secretary was sent to Harrisburg about legislation, because

HE KNEW THE ROPES

there and none of the rest of us did; I would have felt like a fish out of water in trying to lobby a bill through that body; on July 1, 1872, we received from the First National Bank interest on $175,000 for thirty days at 5 per cent.; this was a special deposit; we were about purchasing the McCully property; it was necessary that we should make a tender and that had to be in greenbacks, (the legal tender;) this we did and placed it in the banks for that purpose; the pay roll for July, 1872, was $15,142 10, including $1,304 82 for the Lockhart & Frew property, which the Secretary was directed to receive and tender them; August 7, 1872, this tender was made and refused; don't remember what was done with the money; on May 6, 1872 the mechanical engineer was instructed to inspect all the pipes delivered and ready to be laid; don't know by what authority, if any, the Civil Engineer inspected the pipes at Smith's works; the certificates for the pay rolls are signed by the engineer; the Secretary, I presume, probated them; on July 1, 1872, $200 was ordered to be paid to N. K. Wade for plan of engines, &c., which was objected to (July 6 1872,) by Chief Engineer Creiger, of Chicago; July 9, 1872, $500 was paid Creiger for consultation; July 20, 1872, Mr. Kennedy was authorized to employ Moses H. Lane as consulting engineer at $2,500 per annum and expenses, and Mr. Lowry to get two practical engineers to examine plans and specifications of engines prepared by him and make report of same, they to report the same all right and received $50 each; we knew that if a mistake was made, there would be a very great loss to the city; we thought it our duty to submit this matter to competent men; and

THOUGHT IT ECONOMY

to get men from other cities who had a national reputation; we wanted to make assurance doubly sure, and while we did not doubt Mr. Lowry, we doubted our own judgment, and we wanted to have everything all right; Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Lowry were employed to do all this work, but as I have said, while we did not doubt their judgment, we doubted our own.

FIRE-PLUGS AND STOP-GATES.

Q. Page 69, states that Mr. Hartupee was allowed to withdraw proposals for fire-plugs and stop-gates.

A. The bid was withdrawn before it was opened; know that I always fought against paying a royalty to Mr. Lowry for his fire-plug, or on any contract; the Commission made a report to Councils for 1872, last January; we have been in such a state of confusion in consequence of this development we are investigating, that we have not had time to prepare a report for 1873; the sureties of Ross are for $25,000 and signed by C. H. Love and Jacob H. Walter; those for Mr. Lowry are $10,000 and signed by Jas. M. Taylor and F. C. Negley; those for Mr. Kennedy are also for $10,000 and signed by John Fleming and Robert Dickson; had no knowledge or suspicion that the money was being deposited by Ross in the Nation Trust Company, from May until the time the bank closed; had no knowledge about the bonds; had even no thought of the water bonds being deposited there; never looked at our bond books; don't think looking there would have given us information; if

A MAN THAT WE HAD CONFIDENCE IN

was trying to deceive us; he might fill us a bond for $50,000; and enter it on the margin as for $10,000; took no more precaution to keep them so that they could not be carried away than to put them in the safe in charge of our Secretary; if I had gone to the safe and looked at the bonds, might have discovered that some were missing, if my suspicions had been aroused, and had I made it my special business; did not authorize any bonds to be executed from October 1st to November 11th; would have

CONSIDERED IT MADNESS

to try to negotiate bonds at par bearing seven per cent. interest after the panic began; did not ask for any monthly statements during that time because I was not present at the meetings.

Mr. Burgwin here corrected the statement that he had nothing to do with the finances of the Water Commission. He had intended to say that the business of the Commission was two-fold; one was to receive, the other to expend. The mere selling of bonds was a very simple matter, requiring little trouble and nothing but honesty. But the expenditures we thought required our more especial attention. We established a system for selling bonds, and it would have been successful if it was carried out. And it would have been carried out if there had been honesty. I am willing to stand and fall by the Water Commission, and if we were deceived, it is not our fault.

A number of other questions were asked witness by Messrs. Fetterman, Follansbee and Phillips, tending merely to show that the Commissioners had placed the most implicit confidence in John Ross.

ALL THE OTHER COMMISSIONERS EXAMINED—THEIR TESTIMONY CORROBORATIVE OF MR. BURGWIN'S.

D. W. C. Carroll was recalled, and in answer to Mr. Negley, stated that he believed the testimony given by Mr. Burgwin was substantially correct.

He continued—I received that $1,000 appropriated for contingent expenses; deposited it in bank; checked it out for trips to the water works, and on my visit to New York; also paid out of that the expenses of Mr. Lane from Chicago; as

A DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL BANK

I did not know of Mr. Ross depositing the accrued interest of the city bonds there; knew he had a personal account; did not examine it; did not know he had a personal deposit there of $18,000; never endorsed a draft from Townsend, Wheelen & Co., of Philadelphia, to the City Treasurer until yesterday.

Robert Watson recalled—As far as I remember I can endorse everything Mr. Burgwin has just said; never reported or signed a report to the City Controller of the number of bonds authorized to be issued; Mr. Atkinson earned all the money he got and more too; he was a very serviceable man.

HOW THE CITY TREASURER EXPLAINS.

Mr. P. H. Laufman was recalled, and substantiated Mr. Burgwin's statement; never made a report individually to the controller, or signed any report to him about the issue of the bonds; our minutes are not correct stating that we authorized royalty for the Lowry fire plug; went to the City Treasurer's office; he threw me out the books; I asked him to explain; he said in a rapid way the books themselves would explain; wasn't satisfied with that; went to the Controller's office; he wouldn't give any satisfaction; since May 2, up to December 1, Mr. Ross has put into the City Treasury $1,442,300.

H. M. Rolfe, another member of the Water Commission, was recalled, and corroborated Mr. Burgwin's testimony in full; had implicit confidence in our Secretary; never was led to believe that there was anything wrong until the development occurred that we are investigating.

To Mr. Follansbee—Certain receipts that should have been signed in October were signed in November because it was our duty to sign them at some time.

DRAWING TO A CLOSE.

This ended Mr. Rolfe's evidence, and on motion of Mr. Negley, the Committee adjourned until two o'clock this afternoon, with the understanding that the investigation was then to close, and the Committee go into secret session in order to prepare their report to Councils for Monday next. It was stated by Major Negley that several of the witnesses were absent from the city, some of them very probably for the purpose of evading investigation.

Col. Phillips said that if that was the case they would meet to-day anyhow, and examine all the witnesses that could be found. The Committee could further investigate when they got the other witnesses.

COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC SAFETY.

MEETING FOR ORGANIZATION—A COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO WAIT ON THE NEW YORK COMMITTEE OF SEVENTY—AN IMPORTANT ADMISSION.

The Committee of Forty appointed by the chairman of the recent tax-payers's mass meeting at City Hall, met on Saturday afternoon in the office of Mr. Alex. King, No. 94 Water street, for organization

Mr. Joseph Woodhull, Sr., called the meeting to order by moving that Isaac Jones, Esq., be selected as chairman, and Alex. M. Guthrie as Secretary, which was unanimously agreed to.

The Secretary then called the roll and the following gentlemen responded to their names:

Joseph Woodhull, Sr., Isaac Jones, John H. Renshaw, Alex. King, Samuel Ewart, T. S. Parker, John B. Guthrie, John W Knox, Edmund Wilkins, Jas. Kelly, R. P. Nevin, Dr. Arthurs, Wm. Alexander, S. Morrow, John W. Riddell, Thos. Howard D. Hostetter, And. Miller.

There being no quorum present, a committee was dispatched after those members who did business in the immediate vicinity. In the meantime many suggestions were made as to the best course the committee could pursue.

Mr. Howard said that a very important point the press of the city had entirely overlooked should be taken up by the committee as its first action. While the speaker was in the Senate he had passed a bill, which originated, he thought, with Mr. Dan O'Neil, ito empower the City Councils to fill vacancies occasioned by death of members of the board of trustees having charge of the city's bonded, railroad and other debts. While Senator, he had received numerous letters protesting against it, and he thought it was killed in the House. Theo didn't want outsiders on the board, and some one was now pocketing the revenue from millions belonging to the city.

Mr. Woodwell thought this bill had become a law, and that Councils had appointed Dr. Gross to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of his friend, the late James M'Auley.

Other members suggested that the citizens should be clothed with extra judicial powers at all times, to send for persons and papers, with power to administer oaths, etc., in order to investigate any official who may be found dishonest to the trust reposed in him.

The Ross-Grier or Nation's Trust Company trouble was fully discussed, and the sentiment very generally prevailed that the city should hold the Water Commissioners individually and collectively responsible for any misappropriated bonds.

Messrs. D. O'Neil, John Harper, and one or two others now appeared, and a quorum was announced as present.

On motion of Mr. Howard it was resolved that a general committee of twenty-one be appointed for the transaction of all business of the Committee, and that of this general committee eleven shall constitute a quorum, so that when a call shall be issued for the Committee to come together, in case they should not all respond, there still would be enough for the transaction of business.

Mr. O'Neil then offered the following resolution. That the Committee on Rules be instructed to communicate with Mr. Tilden, of New York, or some other prominent member of the Committee of Seventy, in relation to the manner in which that committee was organized, the power under which it acted, and the means it used to unearth the recent criminal frauds in that city; that said Committee on Rules report the result of said communication at the earliest opportunity. The resolution was accepted.

It was ascertained shortly after that Mr. Knox and Mr. Parker would be in New York City next week, and it was decided to constitute them the committee to wait on Mr. Tilden and other prominent members of the New York Committee of Seventy, and learn from them the mode of operation of this successful Committee, and report the same to an adjourned meeting of this body.

After transacting some routine business, the Committee adjourned, to meet at the call of the Chairman.

KILLED BY THE CARS.

AN UNKNOWN MAN RUN OVER AT BRILLIANT STATION ON SATURDAY.

On Saturday afternoon, about half-past one o'clock, the Buffalo Express, on its way to this city, ran over an unknown man near Brilliant Station, killing him instantly. There were two men on the track at the time. The engineer whistled down breaks, and one man stepped off, but the other apparently paid no heed to the warning signal, and the train could not be stopped in time to save him. The remains were brought to Messrs. Fairman and Sampson's undertaking rooms, and it is said the Coroner empaneled a jury in the evening, but here the narrative for the present must end, as the Coroner does not seem to recognize the fact that he is a public official, and under any obligation to furnish the representatives of the press with information. In this respect, he would do well to take pattern by his predecessor, Mr. West, who took pains to learn everything of possible interest connected with causes of this character, and furnished reporters with every facility in their search after knowledge. Even the killing of a man possesses some interest to at least a portion of the public. It is said that a man was killed at Braddock's yesterday, but it appears that the Coroner did not take the trouble to inquire into the circumstances connected therewith, or to learn his name.

THE PARAGON.

THE LARGEST STERN-WHEEL STEAMER IN THE WORLD.

The steamer Paragon, the largest stern-wheel boat ever built at this or any other port, left the Monongahela wharf about one o'clock yesterday afternoon, for New Orleans. She took away two thousand barrels of oil and about seven hundred tons of miscellaneous freight, making in all about one thousand tons, about half the load she is calculated to be able to carry. Her officers are: Captain, John J. Darrah; clerks, James Rees and Thomas Darrah—gentlemen who are fully competent to fill their positions. The Paragon is designed exclusively for a freight boat, and her light draft, seven feet, with her enormous carrying capacity, will make her a formidable rival of any of the vessels engaged on the lower trade. She is destined to run between Cincinnati and New Orleans. She is rigged to carry freight on each deck, the upper one being fitted up for the reception of the lighter class of freight. The vessel answers her helm perfectly, an important consideration in a boat of her size.

LATE Saturday night some thief or thieves effected an entrance into Kearney's shoe store, on Wylie avenue, between High street and Fifth avenue, by prying open one of the rear windows. They stole a silver watch and a pair of boots. The proprietor was absent at the time, getting shaved.

THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY—OFFICIAL.

The Vote For, Against and Majorities.

Majority For, 16,420.

The return judges of elections met in the Court House yesterday, to receive and make the official count of the votes cast for and against the New Constitution, at the election on Tuesday. Mr. J. C. Porter was chosen President of the Board, and Messrs. John A. Sargeant, J. G. Macfarland, and James Alexander, clerks.

The returns we give below. The districts yet to hear from will probably swell the majority to 16,500 in the county. Almost the first thing done by the board was to appoint a committee to investigate the reported frauds perpetrated in the Seventh ward in this city. The committee sent for the ballot boxes, and found the votes in the box, 219 for the constitution and 193 against; number of votes on tally sheet of the constitution 220, and 229 against. On the schedule of votes registered there were found 424 votes. They could find no return paper with the poll box nor from the return judge. The report was received and filed.

DISTRICTS.	For	Ag'st	Maj For	Maj Ag'st
PITTSBURGH.				
1st ward	277	60	217	....
2d ward	338	58	279	....
3d ward	196	31	165	.....
4th ward	339	45	294	....
5th ward	329	22	307	....
6th ward	452	46	406	....
7th ward	Fraud, thrown out			
8th ward	450	25	425	....
9th ward	305	60	245	....
10th ward	206	97	109	....
11th ward	367	16	351	....
12th ward, 1st p	238	36	202	....
12th ward, 2d p	178	11	167	....
13th ward, 1st p	203	11	192	.....
13th ward, 2d p	50	5	45	.....
14th ward	357	97	260	.....
15th ward	308	32	276	....
16th ward, 1st p	138	12	126	....
16th ward, 2d p	153	9	144	.....
17th ward, 1st p	276	28	248	....
17th ward, 2d p	254	22	232	....
18th ward	72	9	63	....
19th ward	209	13	196	....
20th ward	197	12	185	....
21st ward, 1st p	247	24	223	....
21st ward, 2d p	3	4		1
22d ward, 1st p	75	3	72	....
22d ward, 2d p	36	4	32	....
23d ward	133	13	120	....
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LOCAL AFFAIRS.

From The Daily Post of Wednesday.

INFANTICIDE.

The body of a fully developed female child was found in a vault near the Clinton Iron Works about noon yesterday. The body was wrapped in a cloth and had been thrown into the vault during the preceding night. The coroner last evening held an inquest, but no light was thrown upon the matter by the investigation.

ASPHYXIATED.

A young man named George Davis while intoxicated, crawled under the boilers at McKnight, Porter & Co.'s rolling mill, at the foot of Fifteenth street, South Side, about eleven o'clock yesterday, and at one o'clock was found dead, having inhaled the poisonous gas. He was noticed by the engineer when he crawled under the boilers and warned of the danger, but paid no attention to the warning. The engineer was then called off to attend to something and forgot to carry out his design, of removing Davis, whose dead body was discovered by the assistant engineer at one o'clock. The Coroner held an inquest and a verdict in accordance with the above facts was rendered.

THE CONSPIRACY CASE.

POSTPONED AGAIN UNTIL THE SIXTH OF JANUARY.

The hearing in the conspiracy case against Messrs, Dickson, Ardary, Blair and Ross which was to have been resumed before Alderman McMasters yesterday afternoon was again postposed on account the illness of District Attorney Swoope. The counsel for the prosecution stated that he had no objection to the postponement as one of his witnesses, Mr. B. K. Jamison of Philadelphia was also sick. Officer Clement Kreuter was sworn and stated that he had served a subpœna on Mr. Jamison but found him too ill to leave his home. Mr Bayne obtained an attachment on Jamison to insure his attendance at the next hearing which was fixed for January 6 at two o'clock P. M.

PETITION FOR AN INJUNCTION.

AN ALLEGED FRAUDULENT LEASE.

In the District Court yesterday, a preliminary injunction was granted in the case of Thomas M. Bayne, Esq., Executor, etc, vs. R. S. Sutton, Henry Hess and Lynd Mcffoffin. The petitioner, who is guardian ad litem of Nettie A. McKee, and Executor of the estate of Thos. McKee deceased, sets forth that the deceased was the owner of the house and lot, No. 24 Western avenue, Allegheny, that he had leased the house to a Mr. Sproul; that he (deceased) had known R. C. Sutton for a number of years, he (Sutton) having rented from McKee and failed to pay the rent, that Sutton well knew that McKee would not rent to him, and in order to get fradulent possession of the above named premises, employed Sproul to secure the lease for him; that Sproul never intended to occupy or use the house, but conspired with Sutton to obtain it; that Sutton did not intend to occupy the house, but contrived to get possession of it for $120 per annum, that he might sublet it at an increased rental; that Sutton let the same to V. E. Beamer at $500 per year, thus realizing $80 per annum as a profit; that Beamer had been notified not to pay the rent to Sutton, or his agent, and has refused to pay to him; that thereupon Sutton issued a landlord's warrant and levied upon the household goods of Beamer, and threatened to sell the same—Hess and McGoffin being the constables having control of the warrants; that Beamer is willing to pay the rent, when he knows to whom it rightfully belongs, and joins in this bill of complaint, that the case may be legally settled.

The Court was therefore asked to restrain Sutton, and the constables named, from proceeding with the landlord's warrants, or any other process for the collection of the rent, and that Sutton and Sproul be perpetually enjoined from collecting the rent. The parties were restrained accordingly, until the further order of the Court.

ROBBERY IN ALLEGHENY.

ARREST OF ONE OF THE GANG.

James Cunningham called on William Brown, hardware merchant on Chestnut street, Allegheny, on Monday and after pricing several articles, left, promising to call again in the evening for what he wanted. His visit, however, was defered until yesterday morning about two o'clock when he was arrested by Lieut. Wokle, while making his exit from a butcher shop near by. The Lieutenant having ascertained previously that Mr. Brown's establishment had been robbed, took him to the lockup. In the morning it was discovered that several revolvers, knives, etc., were missing, and although none of the plunder was found on Cunningham, yet as he called in company with several other men the day before, and was identified by Mr. Brown, he was held last evening on a charge of entering a building to commit a felony, in $500 bail for Court, and in default will be sent to jail.

An attempt was made to enter the shoe store of Mr. Krey, and a saloon on Ohio street the same night, it is supposed by the same party.

PLANTATION OR FARM WAGONS.

The wagon manufactory of Messrs. C. Coleman & Son, on Marion avenue, Allegheny, is daily growing in popularity both on account of the variety of their manufacture and the Railroad speed with which they fill their orders. The farmers are highly delighted with the style of wagon manufactured for their use, and would not do without it. All teamsters speak well of the oth r styles, and so rapidly are they giving this firm orders, that even with their increased facilities they can just about fill them promptly. Call at the works and examine the large stock. W

Finance and Trade.

The following telegrams have been received by N Holmes & Sons, bankers, No. 57 Market street, Pittsburgh:

Gold	110⅞
U. S. Sixes, 1881	114⅛
U. S. Sixes, 1881 (coupons)	113
Five Twenties, 1862	113
Five Twenties, 1864	1 14
Five Twenties, 1865	1 15⅛
Five Twenties, 1865 (new issue)	117
Five Twenties, 1867	116½
Five Twenties, 1868 (coupons)	
Ten Forties	110
Ten Forties (coupons)	110⅝
Currency Sixes	112
New Five Per Cents	113⅛

THE MARKETS.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY POST, December 24, 1873.

REMARKS—The market was not to say an active one, still, taken as a whole, a fair business was transacted. This being holiday week, very extensive preparations have been and are making to that end. Produce—The market is well supplied with the various articles that come under this head; prices are somewhat uncertain, being governed by circumstances. Our rivers are in good navigable order from one end to the other. Flour—We have to report a steady market and a good trade demand. The advance noted in spring wheat has been maintained. Wheat is scarce and held firmly, all good parcels finding ready purchasers at good prices; the mills have only a limited supply on hand. Oats are scarce and command fair prices. Bacon—Dealers report a fair demand for local purposes; the stock in first hands is considered ample for all ordinary purposes. Bulk meat is coming in pretty freely; most of the dealers have made extensive preparations for the coming season; most of the smoke houses are full at the present time.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce received since our last:

Flour, bbls	2,770	Apples, bbls	278
Corn, sks	387	Wheat, sks	218
Barley, sks	102	Butter, kgs	28
Cheese, bxs		Oats, sks	381
Rye, sks		Bacon, pcs	85
Bacon, tcs			

The following are the wholesale prices unless otherwise noted. From store in a small way the usual advance is obtained:

APPLES—The market was quiet, with a fair trade demand for local purposes. Dealers report sales: fair to medium $2 50@3 00; prime to choice $3 25@3 75 per barrel.

APPLE BUTTER—The market is well supplied with this article; prices have been uniform for some days, with sales at 60@70c per gallon.

ASHES—Prices weak, with a limited demand, and unchanged.

ALES—The leading dealers report a fair demand: India ale $11 per barrel; Porter $9; XX ale $8; X ale $8; half barrels in proportion; Bass's English ale is in good supply; as prices are unchanged, we omit figures.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Dull; the season is fast drawing to a close; we quote sales nominally at 4@4¼c as the extreme rates.

BEESWAX—Dull; prices nominal at 27@30c per lb.

BUTTER—Notwithstanding liberal receipts, there was a good demand for choice roll for table use, with sales at 28@30c per pound; good to medium 18@22c; common was dull and had no fixed value.

BEANS—The market contains an ample supply; buyers for some time past have been shy; we quote at $2@2 50 per bushel.

BAGGING—In good supply; Penn mill two bushels 35c; two half bushels 42c; three bushels 50c.

CONCENTRATED LYE—We note regular sales at $7 50@8 00 per case.

CRANBERRIES—We have no change to note in this article as relates to prices or demands, viz. $10@12 50 per barrel; $3 50@4 00 per box as per quality and condition.

CARBON OIL — Market was a shade firmer with sales at the works free on cars, 11@11½c per gallon by the car load.

CHEESE—The market contains a fair supply; prices range as follows: Young America 18c; nutmeg 17c; Ohio sweitzer 16@18c; New York Goshen 15@15½c; Ohio factory 14½@15c; dairy 10@11c; per pound.

COKE—We have a continued dull market; the supply exceeds the demand; prices are nominal at $3 25@3 50 per ton.

CIDER—In good supply with sales at $6 00@9 00 per bbl.

DRESSED HOGS—Sales were made in a regular way at 5½@6c per pound.

DRIED FRUIT—Remains dull and prices nominal.

EGGS—Fresh ones are held firmly at 30 cents.

FLOUR—The receipts have increased; the following are the rates: Spring wheat $7@7 50, the latter figure for choice; red winter wheat $7 50@8 25; white wheat $9 00@10 00 per bbl.

GRAIN—The receipts continue light; holders of wheat firm. Red winter $1 55@1 58; amber $1 60@1 62; white $1 65@1 67 per bushel. The mills are liberal purchasers. Oats firm with a good demand at the advance before noted; mixed 48c; prime white 50c. Corn—new ear held at 60@62c; old shelled 70c per bushel. Rye—The market was a quiet one; holders are asking 85@90c. Barley is quoted at $1 25@1 50 and dull.

GROCERIES—As before noted, there was a fair trade done, and for most articles coffees still retain their firmness. The advance previously mentioned has been maintained; sugars are unchanged. Molasses firm and tending upward.

GAME—The leading dealers on Liberty and other streets, have laid in an ample supply of the various kinds to meet the wants of the holidays. Prices are about as low as other meats.

HOMINY—Dealers report a fair trade; demand at $4 50@5 00 per bbl.

HAY—The firmness we have before noted has been fully maintained; we are noted sales of baled on wharf and from depot $20, 23@25 per ton as per quality.

POULTRY—Is coming in pretty freely. Sales, dressed chickens 10@12c per lb turkeys 14@15c, geese 8@10c per pound; ducks 13@14c.

POTATOES—Market firm; fine peach blows are selling in a jobbing way at $1 20@1 25 per bush; sweets are out of season.

PROVISIONS—The market is well supplied. Hams, sugar cured, 12c; shoulders 9½c; plain 8½c; breakfast bacon 11½; dried beef 15½c; ham sausage 10c; beef tongues $7 50 per dozen; rib sides 9c; short rib 9c; clear 10c; mess pork $17 00 per bbl.; lard: tierce 9½c; half bbls. 10c; buckets 10½c.

PEAS—We note sales at $1 50@1 75 per bbl.

RAGS—Steady at 2¾@3c per lb.

WHISKY—Firm; sales of High Wines at $1 02@1 03 per gallon.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE POST, December 24, 1873.

REMARKS—The market is moving along quietly, presenting nothing new or important. The firmness we have noted in regard to prices in the oil regions has been maintained. Producers appear well pleased with the situation. Below will be found all the information that was attainable:

CRUDE.

The asking rates were 2¾@3c per gallon. The following sales were made at

PARKER'S.

1,000 bbls United	92½c
1,000 bbls Union	$1 02½

For prices at other points see dispatches.

REFINED.

We have no change to note as re'ates to prices or demands; at the works, free on cars, 11@11¼c was demanded.

Philadelphia — Market reported quiet at 13¼c; January, 13¼c; February, 13½@13¾c; March, 13¾@14c; April, 14½@14¾c.

New York—The market is dull at 13⅝@13¾c.

OIL BARRELS.

Sales of City at $1 85@1 90; Country $1 80.

DISPATCHES.

TITUSVILLE, December 23.—The Herald says: The petroleum markets were steady at previous quotations. Oil City closed at $1 10. Parker's quiet at $1 02½ for Union and 92½c for United. Following were the sales:

UPPER ROAD.

1,000 bbls spot	$1 12½
1,000 do do	1 12½
1,000 do do	1 15

OIL CITY.

2,000 bbls spot	1 10

PARKER'S

1,000 bbls United	92½

NEW YORK, December, 23.—Closing of the 22d. Market dull and steady. Crude, in bulk 5¾c; refined 13⅝@13¾c; cases, 18¾@20c; naphtha 8½c; Philadelphia delivery quiet and steady; refined 13¼c. Gold opened at 110⅝.

PETROLEUM CENTER, December 23.—Market very quiet; sales at 90c.

TIDIOUTE, December 23.—Market unchanged at 90c bid; 95c asked.

TITUSVILLE, December 23.—Market quiet and nothing doing; spot $1 12½@1 15.

OIL CITY, December 23.—Market quiet at $1 05.

PHILADELPHIA, December 23.—Market quiet; S. W. 13¾c; crude, 4¾c; cases, 18½c; sales, none; futures, January, 13¼c; February, 13½@13¾c; March, 13¾@14c¼; April, 14½@14¾c.

PITTSBURGH LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE POST, WEDNESDAY, Dec. 24, 1873.

CATTLE.

The receipts of cattle since our last report have been fair, but, as is generally the case towards the last of the week, light of stock, intended for sale here. Trade has ruled moderately active on all grades, but prices are a shade lower than last week. At this writing most of the stock is sold and shipped out. Following are the rates current:

PRICES.

Prime to extra Christmas stock	$7 00@9 00
Extra 1,400 to 1,500 lb steers, fine and smooth	5 75@6 00
Extra 1,300 do	5 50
Prime 1,200 do	5 20@5 25
Prime 1,100 do	4 50@5 00
Fair	4 00@4 25
Common	3 50@3 75
Inferior	2 50@3 00

HOGS.

The receipts of hogs to-day have been fair and about equal to the demand. In quality the arrivals are generally good. Trade opened to-day with buyers demanding concessions from holders, owing to the unfavorable advices from other points. Sellers were compelled to accept lower rates, and hogs sold for about 30 cents lower than at the time of our last report. Following are the prices current:

PRICES:

Extra Philadelphia	$5 20@5 25
Prime do	5 20@5 25
Yorkers	4 70@4 90
Roughs	4 50@4 75

SHEEP.

The offerings were the largest we have had for a long time, being in excess of last week, notwithstanding the large offerings. The market was firm and sales were liberal. Among the offerings were several cars of Christmas stock that were disposed of at full prices, one lot averaging 6½c per lb. The current rates were:

PRICES.

Extra 100 lbs fine wool	$5 50
do 90 to 95 lbs fine wool	5 00@5 37½
do 80 to 85 lbs fine wool	4 50@4 75
Common stock sold at various prices.	

ALLEGHENY LIVESTOCK MARKET

OFFICE OF THE POST, WEDNESDAY, Dec. 24, 1873.

CATTLE.

The arrivals of cattle by the different railroads centering at the Union yards were some forty cars or eight hundred head. In addition to these, there were scattering droves from Washington, Beaver, Butler and Mercer counties, sufficient at least to make from nine hundred to nine hundred and fifty as the total of offerings. In quality the stock was fair, in general about as good as it usually is, with here and there a sprinkling of extra. The market opened up, at seven o'clock, dull and slow, and continued so until about nine o'clock, when it became more active, and continued so until the close. Sellers were compelled to concede to buyers in order to make sales, and we think that prices on all kinds (except the very best, which were in limited supply) were ¼ cent lower. Some cattle, really extra, sold as high as 7 cents, and from that figure down to 4 cents for common to inferior stuff. On the whole, trade was active, but prices lower than last week. Following are the rates current:

PRICES.

Extra fancy steers	$7 00@9 00
Prime	6 50@6 75
Fair	5 50@6 00
Common	3 75@4 50
Bulls	2 75@4 00
Fresh cows	35 00@55 00

HOGS.

The run of hogs was fair and mostly on the brands of regular dealings. Trade ruled active from the opening to the close, and prices are fully 10 cents higher than last week. Following were the current rates:

PRICES.

Prime hogs	$5 75
Fair	5 50
Common	5 00@5 20

SHEEP.

The offerings at the yards are exceedingly light, besides the offerings are of the medium and common kind. The supply of prime fat sheep fell far below the demand; in fact, the whole offerings all told did not reach 83 75 per head, this being less than one-half the amount required to meet the wants of this market. Prices ruled about the same as last week, ranging from $2 50 per head up to 6c per lb, and lambs sold from $2 50@3 50@4 50 per head.

NEW YORK MONEY MARKET.

NEW YORK, December 23.—Money closed easy at 5@6 per cent. Sterling weak at 108¼ for sixty day's and 109¼ for sight. Customs receipts $245,000.

Gold closed at 110¾ after selling at 109⅞@110¾. Loans were made at 4½, 7 1-32@7 per cent. gold for carrying and flat for borrowing. The assistant treasurer disbursed $64,000. Clearings $34,000,000. Governments quiet and firm. State bonds dull.

Stocks dull. In the morning the market declined from ¼ to ⅞ per cent., but after the first call a firm feeling set in and a general advance from ¼ to 1⅜ per cent. took place. Western Union was the leading feature. Next in point of interest were Union Pacific, Wabash, Pacific Mail and Lake Shore. Stock sales between ten and two o'clock amounted to 96,000 shares, of which 34,000 were Western Union, 18,000 Union Pacific, 12,000 Wabash, 5,500 Pacific Mail, 2,500 Ohios, 2,000 Central, 4,000 St. Paul, 6,000 Lake Shore, 4,500 C. C. & I. C and 2,000 Northwest.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

PRODUCE.

NEW YORK, December 23.—Cotton is quiet at 16c. Flour, corn, rye, barley and malt quiet and unchanged. Whisky steady at 98c. Wheat in moderate demand; No. 2 spring $1 57@1 58; No. 2 Milwaukee, $1 60@1 62; No. 1 Milwaukee $1 65; extra choice, $1 87. Oats heavy and lower; mixed western 57@60c. Hay and hops unchanged. Sugar and molasses quiet. Crude petroleum 5¼c; refined 13½c. Eggs firm. Turpentine quiet at 41½c. Pork firm at 16c. March 16¼c. Beef steady; mess 8¾@11c; extra 12@13c. Cutmeats in fair request at 6c; middles firmer; long clear 7½c; short 7⅝c; spot 7¾. Lard weak; steam 8⅝c; choice 8¾c; January 8¾c. Butter and cheese unchanged.

DRY GOODS.

Commission houses were quiet to-day and there was but little activity in jobbing branches. Fine bleached shirtings are closely sold up, and agents of "fruit of loom," nonpareil, &c., only receive orders at value for future delivery. Indian orchard and corset jeans are advanced to 10c. Cotton flannels fairly active. Fancy cassimeres are improving. The holiday retail trade is unusually brisk.

CHICAGO, December 23.—Flour quiet and unchanged. Wheat dull and unsettled; No. 1 spring $1 14½@1 15; No. 2 $1 13¼ cash; $1 14½ seller January; $1 17⅜ seller February; No. 3 $1 03¾. Corn dull and declined; No. 2 mixed 53¼c; 53⅝c seller January; 54¾c seller February. Oats dull and lower; No. 2 38c spot; 38½c seller January. Rye demand fair and market firm; No. 1 76@77c. Barley quiet and unchanged; fall No. 2 $1 40; No. 3 $1 05½@1 08. Dressed hogs steady at $5 90@5 95. Pork dull; $14 spot; $14 50 seller February. Lard easier; 8¼c spot; 8¾c seller February. Bulk meats in good demand at 5¼, 6¾@7c; green meats rather easier; shoulders 5c. Hams 8½@8¾c. Whisky steady and in moderate demand at 95c.

CINCINNATI, December 23.—Cotton dull but unchanged. Flour firm and unchanged. Corn steady and in moderate demand at 54@58c. Rye, barley and oats quiet and unchanged. Groceries quiet and unchanged. Pork nominally unchanged. Lard quiet; steam 8¼c; kettle 8⅝@8¾c. Bulk meats dull; shoulders 6c; clear rib 7c; clear 7½@7¾c. Bacon active with light sales; shoulders 7c; clear rib 7¾c@8; clear 8@8¼c. Green meats quiet; shoulders 5¾@5½c; clear rib 6½@6¾c; clear 6¾@7c. Hams 8@8¾c. Hogs slow; buyers holding off at $4 65@4 85. Whisky firmer at 92c.

LOUISVILLE, December 23.—Cotton quiet and steady at 15c. Flour firm and unchanged. Wheat steady at $1 45@1 55. Corn steady at 45@50c. Oats firm at 45@50c. Rye and barley unchanged. Pork steady at $15 50@16 00. Bacon quiet; shoulders 6c; clear rib 7½@7¼c; clear 7¾@7¾c. Lard steady at 9@10c; good 8@8½c. Hogs dull and prices nominal at $5 00@5 25. Whisky dull at 91½@92c.

PHILADELPHIA, December 23.—Wool quiet and firm. Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia double extra and above, 55@56c. Extra, 53@55c. Medium, 53@55c. Coarse, 50@52. New York, Michigan, Indiana and Western fine, 48@50c. Medium, 50@53c. Coarse, 50@51c. Combing, washed, 60@63c. Combing, unwashed, 40@42c. Canada combing, 60@63c. Fine unwashed 34@36c. Coarse and medium washed, 35@36c. Tub washed, 50@57½c.

MILWAUKEE, December 23.—Flour quiet and unchanged. Wheat: demand fair and market firm; No. 1 Milwaukee, $1 19; No. 2, $1 15@1 15¾. Oats steady and in a moderate demand; No. 2, 36¼c. Corn steady and in a moderate demand; No. 2 mixed, 54c. Rye: demand fair and market firm; No. 1, 75c. Barley: demand fair and market firm; No. 1, $1 15.

MEMPHIS, December 23.—Cotton dull and drooping; good ordinary at 13½c; strict at 14c; low middling at 14½c; strict at 14¾c. Flour steady at $9 50. Corn meal dull at $2 25. Corn dull and declined at 69@70c. Oats dull and unsettled at 53c. Hay dull at $16@23. Bran quiet at 17@17¾c. Bulk meats dull and lower at 5¾, 7@7½c. Lard quiet and unchanged.

TOLEDO, December 23.—Flour in fair demand and market firm; No 1 white Wabash $1 80; No 3 do $1 50; amber Michigan $1 50; to seller for February $1 56@1 56½; No 1 red $1 52. Corn in fair demand and market firm; high mixed, cash and seller January 61c; seller February 62c; seller March 64c; low mixed 59c. Oats in good demand at full prices; No 2, 45½c; seller for January 46c.

NASHVILLE, December 23.—Cotton dull and declined to 12¾@12¾c. Flour quiet at $6 50@8 60. Wheat quiet at $1 35@1 55. Corn 65c. Oats 50@55c. Provisions active. Lard 9¼c. Bulkmeats firm; shoulders 6¾c; clear rib 7½c; clear 7¾c. Bacon shoulders 7½c. Whisky steady at 97c.

BALTIMORE, December 23. — Flour steady. Wheat firm. Corn firm; mixed western 77c. Oats firm. Rye steady. Provisions quiet and nominal. Butter steady. Coffee quiet and very strong at 25@25½c. Whisky dull; offered at $1 02, but no buyers.

PHILADELPHIA December 23.—Flour firm; superfine $5 00@5 90; state, Ohio and Indiana $7 25@8 30. Wheat dull $1 55@1 60. Corn firmer; old yellow 78@80; new 67@70. Oats steady; white 53@58. Crude petroleum 8¾@10c; refined 13¼c. Whisky $1 02.

CLEVELAND, December 23.—Wheat quiet and unchanged. Corn steady; 64@65c old; 62c new. Oats quiet at 48c; No. 1 State 46c; No. 2 do. Petroleum quiet, steady and unchanged.

LUMBER MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 25, 1873.

UNPLANED LUMBER.

Clear, per M	$65 00
First common	55 00
Second common	30 00
Third common	25 00
Sheeting	20 00
Hemlock joists and scantling	20 00

PLANED LUMBER.

First common, per M	$60 00
Clear	70 00
Flooring boards	34 00
Partition boards	45 00
Shelving on both sides	34 00
Shelving on one side	32 00
Plow and drop weatherboarding	34 00
Moulded weatherboarding	37 00
Rabbited weatherboarding	34 00
Half-inch patent planed	25 00
Half-inch patent unplaned	20 00
Twelve-inch vertical, with stripes	32 00
Oak and yellow pine flooring boards	45 00

SHINGLES AND LATH.

No. 1, 18-inch, sawed	$ 6 50
No. 2, 18-inch, sawed	5 00
No. 1, 16-inch, shaved	6 00
No, 1, 16-inch, sawed	6 00
Lath	4 25

BROOM MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 25, 1873.

Shaker No. 1, per dozen	$ 3 50
Shaker " 2, "	3 00
Hurl A " "	3 25
Hurl " 1, "	3 00
Hurl " 2, "	3 00
Plain Hurl	2 00
Western common	2 00
Broom corn, prime per ton	150@180 00
Broom corn, common per ton	140@160 00
Broom handles, per 1,000, plain	18 00
Painted	30 00
Swallow brooms, per dozen	
I C, 14x20, leaded	12 00
I X, 14x20, leaded	14 25

According to quanty and quantity prices would vary less.

TIN PLATES, ETC.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 25, 1873.

I C, 10x14, charcoal	$12 00
I X, 10x14, charcoal	14 75
I C, 12x12, charcoal	12 50
I X, 12x12, charcoal	15 25
I C, 14x20, charcoal	13 00
I C, 14x20, leaded	11 50
I X, 14x20, leaded	13 75

According to quality and quantity prices would vary less.

COTTON GOODS.

The following are the prices as reported by Kennedy, Childs & Co.:

Penn Mill, A No 1, 44 sheetings	13½	Penn Mill 2½ bush bags	42
Nonatoo, 44 sheeting	11	Penn Mill, 3 bush	50
Pittsburgh Family 44 sheeting	10½	White Carpetchain	33
unista B, fine, 44 sheeting	10	Colored carpet ch'n	40
sh a Batting	16	Penn Mill 2 bush bags	35
otton Twine	33		

CRACKER MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 25, 1873.

	per lb		per lb
Butter crackers	7 c	Sugar crackers	9½c
Cream do	22 c	Water do	7 c
Lemon do	11½c	N Y water do	7 c
Oyster do	7 c	Wine do	9½c
Soda do	7 c	Ginger snaps	12½c

FAMILY MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 25, 1873.

MEATS.

Beef, sirloin steak, per lb	20c
Beef, round steak, per lb	18c
Fresh mutton, per lb	10@12c
Fresh lamb, per lb	10@12c
Fresh veal, per lb	10@12c
Fresh pork, per lb	12@15c
Corned beef, per lb	10c
Ham, per lb	18c
Pickled pork, per lb	10c
Dried beef, per lb	20c
Breakfast bacon, per lb	14@16c
Sausage meat, per lb	12½c

FISH.

Lake fish. per lb	10 c

POULTRY.

Chickens, per pair	60@70c
Ducks, per pair	$1 00
Turkeys	$1 00@2 00

FRUITS AND BERRIES.

Apples, per half peck	20@25c
Lemons, per dozen	25@50c
Oranges, per dozen	60@75c
Malaga Grapes	35c
Grapes, per lb	10@12c
Cranberries, per quart	20c

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes, per half peck	15c
Sweet potatoes, per half peck	30c
Turnips, per half peck	15c
Carrots, per bunch	5c
Onions, per half peck	30c
Lettuce, per head	5c
Beets, per bunch	6c
Radishes, per bunch	5c
Squashes, each	25c
Cabbages, per head	5@15c
Lima Beans per quart	20
Parsnips, per bunch	10c
Celery, 3 bunches	25c

BUTTER.

Prime to choice yellow print, per lb	40@45c
Choice yellow roll, per lb	30@35c
Ordinary to good do, per lb	20@25c
Cheese, per lb	20c
Eggs, fresh, per dozen	35c

NATRONA CHEMICALS.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 25, 1873.

The following are the card rates of the Pennsylvania Salt Manufacturing Company:

Saponifer—50 case	$7 50	per case
Less quantity	8 00	"
Greenwich Lye, (50 cases	7 25	"
Potash—50 cases (delivered in Phila.)	8 00	"
Less quantity	8 50	"
Bi carb soda—25 kegs	6¾@7c	per lb
Less quantity	7¼@7½c	"
Sal soda—25 kegs	2½c	"
Less quantity	3¼c	"
al soda—25 bbls	2¾c	"
Less quantity	3¼c	"
Caustic soda—10 drums	8 c	"
Less quantity	8½c	"
Copperas—20 bbls	1¾c	"
Less quantity	2 c	"
Porous alum—10 bbls	3¾c	"
Less quantity	4 c	"
Sulphuric acid	3 c	"
Muriatic acid	4¼c	"
Nitric acid	15 c	"
Chloride calcium	2½c	"
Pure alumina	12 c	"
Lump alum	3¾@4 c	"

Terms, cash in 30 days.

PITTSBURGH NAIL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 25, 1873.

CUT NAILS, BRADS, SPIKES, ETC.

Per keg.

10d to 60d nails, fence and brads	$4 25
8d and 9d " " "	4 50
6d and 7d " " "	4 75
4d and 5d nails	5 00
3d nails	5 75
2d nails	7 00

FINE BLUED.		CLINCH.	
3d	$7 25	Clinch nails	$6 00
2d	8 00	CUT SPIKES.	
CASING.		3 to 6 inch	4 50
10d to 30d	5 50	BARREL.	
8d and 9d	5 25	¾ inch	7 25
6d and 7d	5 75	⅝ inch	6 00
FINISHING.		1 inch	5 75
10d to 30d	5 75	1¼ inch	6 25
8d	6 00	1¼ inch	6 00
6d	6 25	1½ inch	5 50
4d	6 50	1¾ inch	5 25

12½c per keg off lots of 100 kegs and over.

Terms—Note or acceptance at 60 days, with exchange on New York, or discount of two per cent. for cash, if remitted within ten days from date of invoice. Payments to be made in New York exchange, United States treasury notes, or their equivalent. No discount on bills of less amount than fifty dollars.

WINES AND LIQUORS.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 25, 1873.

	Per gal.	
Common rectified Whisky	$ 95@1 00	
Proof rectified	1 05@1 10	
Monongahela Rye, 1 year old	1 50	
Monongahela Rye, 2 years old	2 00	
Monongahela Rye, 3 years old	2 50	
Monongahela Rye, 4 years old	3 25	
Pure Rye, 5 years old	5 00	
Pure Rye, 2 years old	2 25	
Domestic Brandy, proof gallon	1 50	
Imported brandy	6 00@9 00	
Domestic Gin	1 50@1 75	
Holland Gin	2 90@3 50	
B. B. Brandy	1 50@1 75	
Cherry Brandy	1 50@1 75	
Port Wine	1 50@1 75	
Port Wine "Crown,"	2 00@2 50	
Sherry Wine "Valette,"	1 50@1 75	
Sherry Wine "Crown,"	2 25@2 75	
Sherry Wine "Harmony,"	5 50@6 00	
Rum "New England,"	1 75@2 00	
Rum "Jamaica,"	5 00@5 50	

	Quarts.	Pints.
Champaigne, "C. H."	$27 00	$29 00
Champaigne, "Imperial"	16 00	18 00
Champaign, "Gold Seal"	18 00	20 00
Highwines	1 00@1 05	

WROUGHT IRON WELDED TUBES.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 25, 1873.

Manufacturers' rivised price list of wrought iron pipe, adopted September 9, 1873:

Inside diameter. Inches.	Plain Iron pipe. Per foot.	Galvanized pipe. Per foot.	Weight of pipe. Per foot.
BUTT ELDED.			
⅛	10	22	24
¼	10	22	42
⅜	12	22	56
½	15	24	85
¾	20	32	1 12
1	29	45	1 67
1¼	39	60	2 25
1½	50	85	2 69
LAP WELDED.			
2	70	1 15	3 66
2½	1 10	1 80	5 77
3	1 50	2 30	7 54
3½	1 85	3 00	9 05
4	2 50	3 50	10 72
4½	2 75	4 00	12 40
5	3 20	4 75	14 56
6	4 50	6 00	18 77
7	6 00	.....	23 41
8	7 00	.....	28 35
9	10 00	....	....
10	12 00	....	40 64

Terms, net cash. Payments to be made in New York Exchange, United States Treasury Notes, or their equivalent. Liberal discount to the trade.

WHITE LEAD, PUTTY, ETC.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 25, 1873.

Pure in lots of 2,000 lbs in oil	11½c
Pure in lots of 500 lbs in oil	12 c
Fancy brands	8 @10 c
White lead dry (strictly pure) in kegs	11 @11½c
Orange mineral	14 @14½c
Pure red lead	10 @11 c
Painters' red lead	9 @10 c
Litharge	9½@10 c
Selected zinc, ground in oil	11 c
Vieille Montagne Co.'s French zinc	15 c
Blue paint, ground in oil	8 @11 c
Putty	3¾@ c

PITTSBURGH DRUG MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 25, 1873.

Corrected by Harris & Ewing, wholesale druggists.

Acid.				Magnesia	lb	80	@1 00
Acetic	lb	16	@ 20	—Carb	lb	25	@ 40
Citric	lb	1 53	@1 58	Manna S F	lb		@ 60
Oxalic	lb	25	@ 29	Morph sul	lb	5 70	@6 00
Sulph.	lb		3½	Nutm No 1	lb		1 40
Tartaric	lb	55	@ 58	Oil			
Alcohol,	gal	2 00	@2 20	Bergamot	lb	6 25	@6 50
Aloes.				—Castor	lb	23	@ 24
Cape	lb		20	—Cinnam'n	lb		2 70
Socot	lb		75	—Cloves	lb	3 30	@3 50
Am Carb	lb	25	@ 26	Oil			
—Aqua	lb	11	@ 13	Cod liver	gal	2 00	@2 50
Annotta	lb	65	@ 80	Lemon	lb		5 20
Ashes				Linseed,	gal	95	@1 00
—Soda	lb	4½	@ 5½	Neats F,	gal	1 00	@1 50
Bal. Copa	lb	98	@1 04	Olive,	gal	1 75	@2 00
Bay Rum,	gal	2 25	@3 50	—quarts	doz	6 25	@10 00
Bark				—pints,	doz	3 25	@3 50
Cassia	lb	38	@ 40	Origan	lb	70	@1 20